

Hafa Adai!

6 early birds file candidacy for Nov. polls. **PAGE 2**

Manglona calls for review on annual earmarks. **PAGE 4**

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Kiyu implicated as 'big boss' of prostitution ring

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A man awaiting sentencing for sex trafficking has implicated former Saipan senator and current Commonwealth Ports Authority board member Thomas "Kiyu" Villagomez as one of the alleged true organizers of prostitution conspiracy.

» Former senator denies involvement

Defendant Wei Lin, through counsel Bruce Berline, filed a motion yesterday, requesting U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona to disqualify herself from his case as Villagomez is the judge's brother.

As this developed, assistant U.S. attorney Garth R. Backe, counsel for the U.S. government, moved yesterday the District Court to file under seal all attachments to its reply to Lin's memorandum in the case "for the reason that the attachments contain the names and personal identifying information of the victims in this matter."

As of press time, *Saipan Tribune* was still try-

See KIYU on Page 4



Villagomez



KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Newly formed group aims to strengthen familial ties to Japan

The members of the Japan Northern Marianas Descent Association pose for a photo yesterday following the JNMDA press conference.

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

A newly formed association aims to reconnect descendants

of the Japanese who once lived in the Northern Marianas with their respective families not only in order to strengthen familial ties but to strengthen Japan's ties

to the islands as well.

Yesterday, Japanese Northern Marianas Descent Association president Norman Tenorio and officials of the group held

a press conference to inform the community of their newly formed association that is heavily supported by Japan Consul to

See NEWLY on Page 4

Liberation Day parade reset to July 21

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

The 2018 Liberation Day celebrations are picking up where they left off with festivities at the Garapan Fishing Base resuming on July 17 and ending on July 21 with the parade set at 3pm on Saturday. This was what the Liberation Day committee had finalized in yesterday's meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office confer-

ence room in Oleai.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and the committee—led by chair Joe Ayuyu Jr. and parade chair Brad Ruszala—decided to postpone the activities last week due to inclement weather as advised by the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the National Weather Service-Forecast Office Guam.

See LIBERATION on Page 4



JON PEREZ

Two men put down one of the tents that was set up along Beach Road for last week's Liberation Day festivities that was postponed due to Tropical Storm Maria.

INSIDE

LOCAL

Nearly four years after the disappearance of sisters Natsuki and Chinatsu Yamada, their parents Hideki and Ko-zue Yamada visited Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang to officially ask him to join this year's Liberation Day parade.

PAGE 3



YOUNGSTYLE

When Wendell Carter Jr. was a third-grader in Georgia, he was given a universal homework assignment: What do you want to be when you grow up?

PAGE 13



LIFE & STYLE

Despite its heroes' diminutive size, "Ant-Man and the Wasp" opened with typical Marvel might at the box office, with an estimated \$76 million in ticket sales.

PAGE 21



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Local

6 early birds file candidacy for Nov. polls

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Five independent candidates and a non-partisan trooped to the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe yesterday, the first day of filing the nominating petitions and candidacy for the Nov. 6 general election.

Rota Senator Teresita A. Santos was the first to file candidacy when she submitted her nominating petition and candidacy at 8am.

Former Department of Community and Cultural Affairs secretary Cecilia Taitano joined the big number of independent candidates when she filed her candidacy for a House of Representatives seat on precinct 4.

Incumbent House precinct 4 Rep. Vinnie Vinson Flores Sablan (Ind-Saipan) filed his candidacy for Saipan senator. He was accompanied by some supporters, including Reps. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and Edwin K.

Propst (Ind-Saipan).

Incumbent Senator Steve K. Mesngon (Ind-Rota) filed his candidacy for Rota mayor.

Former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board member Albert A. Taitano filed his candidacy as an independent for a Rota Senate seat.

Thomas Sablan Muna was the last to file for candidacy yesterday as a non-partisan for a seat in the Saipan Municipal Council.

Santos in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* said her filing of candidacy petition is the first step of the election process.

"With profound gratitude, I humbly ask our electorates of Rota for their continued support, trust and confidence on my candidacy for this year's general election," said Santos, who is seeking reelection.

The senator vowed to continue to represent the people of Rota and the CNMI "to the best of my ability and capability."



ERWIN ENCINARES

Incumbent Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Saipan) files her petition for candidacy for Senate yesterday at the Commonwealth Election Commission. She is running as an independent.

Aside from Santos and Albert Taitano, five others will be battling for two Rota Senate seats.

Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and former Rota Department of Public Safety resident director Felix M. Santos are running

under the Republican banner. The three other independent candidates are science teacher Edward C. Maratita Jr., retired

police officer Joel Charfauros, and former senator Jovita Taimanao.

Aug. 8 is the deadline for submission of nominating petitions and candidacy.

CEC has until Sept. 22 to take action on nominating petitions and candidacy documents.

The governor and lieutenant governor seats and 42 other government positions are up for grabs in the coming election.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez said yesterday that the CEC board will hold a meeting at CEC's conference room this Friday, July 13, at 1pm.

CEC board pro temp chair Jesus I. Sablan set the meeting. The agenda include election of pro temp vice chair and hearing on challenges of registrations.

CEC is expecting the bulk of candidacy filing on the Aug. 8 deadline because most of them are government employees.

Guanlao asks fed court to maintain status quo pending appeal

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Amalia Abo Guanlao, a Filipino mother of two minor U.S. children, is opposing the U.S. government's request for the federal court to dissolve its 2016 order staying an immigration judge's ruling for her removal from the U.S.

Guanlao, through counsel Rosemond B. Santos, said she has filed a notice of appeal with the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Tuesday, July 3.

In Guanlao's opposition to dissolve filed yesterday in court, Santos said Guanlao is appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from the District Court's ruling that dismissed her petition for a writ of habeas corpus.

The petition seeks to appeal the immigration judge's removal order.

Santos said based on the notice of appeal, Guanlao requests the court to exercise its broad discretion to stay the proceedings.

Santos asked the court to allow for the resolution of appellate proceedings, which will simplify issues or questions of law in this matter and/or will promote judicial efficiency and avoid inequity, waste, and hardship.

Santos said in connection with the notice of appeal, she will be filing contemporaneously a notice of motion and motion of Guanlao for stay pending appeal.

The lawyer requested the court to exercise its broad

discretion by staying the proceedings and maintaining the status quo during the pendency of the appeal process.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood dismissed last June 19 Guanlao's petition.

On June 23, 2016, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona issued a stay of Guanlao's removal from the U.S.

Following Tydingco-Gatewood's dismissal order, the U.S. government, through De-

partment of Justice Office of Immigration litigation trial attorney Adrienne Zack, moved the District Court to formally lift the stay of removal because this case has been resolved.

According to court records, on Sept. 10, 2013, an immigration judge found that Guanlao was removable as an alien present without a valid immigrant visa or entry document and ordered her removed to the Philippines.

Guanlao appealed the judge's decision pro se or without a lawyer to the Board of Appeals. She lost her case

before the immigration court. In June 2016, she filed her petition for a writ of habeas corpus, seeking determination of "the legality of her continued detention and intended removal" and "a stay of her removal during the pendency of this case."

Guanlao, who has a condition requiring medication just like one of her two children, has been residing on Saipan for over 24 years now. Her husband has been working on the island since 1989. Their two minor children were born on the island.

Tourism Topics

A bi-weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

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Seventeen Magazine Sweet on The Marianas

One of the best ways to get the biggest bang for its buck in promotions is for the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to entice media outlets to use The Marianas as a backdrop for their photography, films and TV shows, articles, and other coverage. By negotiating such coverage, the MVA can exponen-

tially multiply its small financial investment to thousands—or sometimes even millions—of dollars in media exposure.

For example, Seventeen, a fashion magazine popular among younger females issued in Japan from Shueisha, recently featured swimwear collection for this summer. The annual shooting was held for the first time on Saipan at photogenic locations with the Seventeen's four models, including Rinkuma. The issue is titled "2018 Summer-Scoop Cute Swimwear on Saipan" and covers five pages. The July issue of the magazine will include an additional travel page.

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Cabinet salary hike omitted from budget

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Fiscal year 2019 budget talks in the House of Representatives officially come to an end last Friday after they shot the budget bill over the Senate for their review and action 113 days before the deadline of the fiscal year budget and the start of fiscal year 2019 on Oct. 1, 2018.

The House of Representatives passed with a vote of 16-1 Rep. Angel Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-173 on its first and final reading during a session at the House chamber on Capitol Hill. Only Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) opposed the bill.

The 39-page bill appropriates a total of a little over \$167 million to the various government agencies of the Commonwealth government.

"A bulk of H.B. 20-173 mirrors the governor's proposal," said Demapan during the House session as he explains to his colleagues some of the key differences between his bill and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' proposed budget for fiscal year 2019.

Demapan noted that the most significant change to the bill was the removal of funding for the salary increase of Cabinet members. He noted that the reason for omitting the funds from the appropriation was due to Rep. John Paul Sablan's (R-Saipan) H.B. 20-35's status at the Senate.

Demapan pointed out that the Senate has yet to act on the bill, which effectively increases the salaries of appointed officials and increases the salary ceiling.

"The funding provided for the increases were in anticipa-

tion and the presumption that H.B. 20-35 would become law during the [budget] process," said Demapan, adding that his committee, the House Ways and Means Committee, recognized the bill's status at the Senate.

"The committee took the position not to fund things that are not created by statute or any other executive action, [and] prompted the committee to pull back the funds appropriated for that purpose," he continued.

Demapan said the \$250,000 originally for the salary hike of appointed officials went to the respite care program under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

A total of \$450,000 of the Judiciary budget for mold mediation was pulled back as well from the fiscal year 2019 budget proposal from Torres

after Demapan noted that the governor enacted Public Law 20-61 in mid-June 2018, which appropriated \$7 million to the Judiciary for the mold mediation at the Guma Hustisia.

Demapan further noted additional funding appropriated towards the Division of Youth Services after the committee received information that the division is anticipating a shortfall in federal grants.

Funding distributions toward the Rota Department of Public Safety and the Rota Department of Public Works were also adjusted after receiving communications from Rep. Glenn Maratita's (R-Rota) office.

The Public School System, which requested for \$55 million for their operations, was appropriated \$41.8 million, which meets the constitutional mandate entitling PSS to at least 25 percent of funds.

"...We recognize that this is below the PSS' request for this fiscal year, however, as we have seen in the current fiscal year, we were able to increase the PSS' current budget by \$12 million and we expect at least another \$3.7 million. For fiscal year 2019, it is also the

intent of this body to further support public education in any supplemental revenues that become available," Demapan said.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is appropriated a large amount for this fiscal year compared to the minute appropriation last fiscal year 2018 of less than \$1 million. For fiscal year 2019, Demapan said a total of \$5.5 million is appropriated to CHCC for this fiscal year. The figure also includes amounts outside of the general fund.

Demapan reported that his committee concurred with Torres' budget proposal for the Northern Marianas College budget of \$4.89 million. The lone community college in the CNMI requested for a minimum of \$6 million. Like PSS, Demapan noted that NMC was also one of the priorities for the supplemental revenue appropriations.

A significant increase for the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority was highlighted as the office that focuses on on-island transportation on Saipan recently opened a service route targeting NMC students. The route is from

Garapan to the college and costs \$2 for unlimited riding within a two-hour span.

COTA was appropriated \$1.15 million.

Demapan said the appropriation was made in order to allow COTA to further open new routes.

"This funding is necessary so that public transit is fully implemented this fiscal year," he said.

The House appropriated \$40,000 to the Emergency Operations Center to acquire a web EOC software.

"In the face of natural disaster and emergency response, the CNMI is one of the last U.S. territories to acquire a web EOC software," said Demapan, adding that the passing of tropical depression 10W, which is now known as super typhoon Maria, further underscores the need for such.

Without much discussion on the House floor, the bill heads to the Senate.

Yamadas pay their first visit to Saipan Mayor



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Hideki Yamada, far left, Mayor David M. Apatang, and Kozue Yamada pose for a photo last Friday during the Yamadas' first visit to the Saipan Mayor's Office.

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Nearly four years after the disappearance of sisters Natsuki and Chinatsu Yamada, their parents Hideki and Kozue Yamada visited Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang to officially ask him to join this year's Liberation Day parade.

The Yamada sisters' disappearance remains one of the unsolved mysteries of the island of Saipan. Although many have given up the search, the parents of these two women are adamant about uncovering the mystery of their daughters'

disappearance.

According to Apatang, Hideki and Kozue Yamada have been coming to Saipan every year in hopes of receiving news on their daughters' whereabouts. This year, they wanted to join the parade to pass out flyers but unfortunately, it was cancelled.

"The Yamada sisters went missing like three years ago and their parents have been coming back and forth every year. This year, they intend to join the parade unfortunately that was postponed because of the weather situation," he said.

As a parent himself, Apa-

tang was saddened by the fact that Hideki and Kozue Yamada have been searching for their daughters for years with no luck.

"They came and visited me for the first time and it's still very sad to see these parents grieving all these years for their daughters," he said.

Apatang is urging the community, if they have any leads at all, to alert the authorities to rehash the Yamada sisters' case.

"I am asking the public, if they know anything or have any information on these two missing girls and what happened to those two, please inform the authorities so the parents can rest. They need to know what happened to their daughters," he said.

Apatang will join in Hideki and Kozue Yamada's efforts to locate their daughters.

"They gave me a custom T-shirt with the girls' faces on it that I will wear and they also gave me flyers to post in front of my office" he said.

"They are still looking, hoping, and praying to find their daughters or at least find out exactly what happened to them," he added.

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Manglona calls for review on annual earmarks

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Now that the CNMI economy is doing well, Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) wishes to review the annual earmarks, or funds set aside yearly, for specific purposes in the CNMI general appropriations bill.

Speaking before yesterday's Senate session on Capitol Hill, the Rota senator said he wants these reviewed thoroughly because the earmarks were placed during the financial austerity measures of the

early 2000s, back when the economy was on a downward trajectory.

Manglona commented during discussions of the House Concurrent Resolution 20-02, or the budget proposal of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. The Senate later passed the resolution unanimously with a vote of 9-0.

He noted that starting fiscal year 2017, the Legislature deducted \$44 million for the earmarks for the minimum annual payment for the Settlement Fund.

"We have earmarking from

the past that we have to update," said Manglona, adding that Attorney General Edward Manibusan previously opined that earmarks should first be adopted. "We need to update [the earmarks] and the duplicate [earmarks]."

"My concern is the Public School System's 25 percent," he said.

PSS is entitled to at least 25 percent of general funds for their annual appropriations.

Manglona said he was also concerned for several individuals who are reportedly suing

the CNMI government for not complying with the earmarks, PSS included.

The Senate concurring Torres' budget proposal for the fiscal year signifies the start of the budget process for the Senate. Budget hearings will be held today at the Senate Chamber for PSS at 9:30am and the Department of Public Safety at 2pm.

Prior to voting, Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) also warned the Senate of concurring to the budget without first thoroughly reviewing Torres'

proposal. He reminded the Senate of last year's budget, where members of the Senate realized that they wished to tweak the proposal prior to concurring.

"...Once we adopt this, I hope that we do not have to come back and change this after further findings that we may encounter after today," he said.

DPW eyes traffic lights at Quartermaster

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Works is currently looking at installing new traffic signal lights at an intersection connecting Beach Road and Middle Road.

According to a communication to the House Public Utilities and Communications Committee chair Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) and Senate Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications Committee chair Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), DPW updated its four-year Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan, or TTIP, to include installing new traffic signal lights for the Quartermaster Intersection on Beach Road.

Federal Highway Administration territorial representative Boday Borres amended on June 26, 2018 the TTIP during her visit to Saipan last week to reflect the installation of the traffic signal lights.

"The amendment included the Beach Road/Quartermaster Intersection and Kopa De Oro Road Route 30 Chalan Pale Arnold to install a new traffic signal system and other projects," DPW secretary James Ada told both chairs.

Igisomar during yesterday's Senate session commented on the issue, informing his colleagues at the Senate of the amendment.

"...Help support DPW to... enhance the intersection at Quartermaster or Beach Road considering that we have had a lot of accidents there. We are hoping that this [streetlight] can minimize the amount of accidents there," he said.

Igisomar noted that he has been communicating with DPW through Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

While the communication indicated of DPW's intention to add a new streetlight on the intersection, it did not indicate whether it has identified funding for the project.

LIBERATION

From Page 1

The parade was originally scheduled on July 4 with the festivities supposed to be ending on July 7, but Tropical Storm Maria, which passed by the Marianas, foiled their plans and prompted the committee to postpone all activities as Liberation Day officials put the public's safety first.

"The situation was beyond our control. If it was up to me, we could have finished things up but we had to make a decision on the situation.

I hope that the public and community understand that," said Apatang.

He and the committee are now reaching out to all the vendors and entertainers to again join them for another five days of fun and celebration, and all the participants—competition and non-competition—prepare again for the postponed Fourth of July parade.

Apatang said they would ask for weather updates from the CNMI HSEM and the NWS-Guam if there would be any changes on their forecast. "I believe that we're going to have great weather in the com-

ing weeks. Still, we're going to get weather updates for the proposed dates."

Staff from the mayor's office and other personnel would begin setting up the grounds—from the tents and electrical connection—this weekend and are also inviting all vendors to prepare their respective stalls in time for the July 17 (Tuesday) reopening.

The Liberation Day grounds will be from 6pm to 10pm from Tuesday to Friday, July 17-20, and 6pm to 11pm on Saturday, July 21—with the parade set at 3pm following the same route from National

Office Supply to the Garapan Fishing Base. Beach Road, however, will be closed starting at 12pm from the Atkins-Kroll intersection.

Daily prizes will be given away every night including daily bingo with the main raffle, where the \$10,000 cash grand prize is at stake, will be on Saturday at 9pm. Fireworks will be at 10pm. Raffle tickets will be sold nightly at the parade grounds.

Several weather disturbances forced the postponement of the Liberation Day festivities and parades a few years ago.

KIYU

From Page 1

ing to get comments from Villagomez.

Lin was accused of luring women from China to Saipan on false promises of jobs and then forcing them into prostitution once they got on the island.

In 2012, Lin was charged with three counts of sex trafficking and one count of financially benefitting from a sex trafficking venture. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to sex trafficking.

Lin was sentenced to 235 months in prison. He appealed.

In November 2016, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed the sentence and remanded the case to the U.S. District Court for the NMI for resentencing.

In Lin's motion to disqualify, Berline said the exhibits attached to this motion indicate that Villagomez is identified by the complaining witnesses as the "big boss" in the alleged prostitution operation at the center of this case.

Berline said multiple witnesses identify Villagomez as the owner and operator of a commercial building and a karaoke nightclub where the complaining witnesses allegedly engaged in prostitution.

He said these additional witnesses place Villagomez at one or more gatherings of the complaining witnesses and a number of defendants, co-defendants, and unindicted co-conspirators.

"All of this occurred over an extended period of time and not as an incidental occurrence," the lawyer said.

Berline said while Lin has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit sex trafficking, his sentencing is pending and that a number of salient and material issues are still in dispute. Importantly, Berline said, this includes Lin's culpability and role in the offense.

He said the U.S. government has argued for an enhancement under the sentencing guidelines asserting that Lin is an organizer or leader of a criminal activity.

Berline said Lin disputes this claim and argues that other unindicted co-conspirators, including Villagomez, are the true organizers and leaders of any criminal prostitution conspiracy.

"Here, a reasonable person would conclude that Judge Manglona's impartiality might reasonably be questioned when she is called upon to resolve this disputed issue involving her brother's possible criminal liability," he said.

Berline said the alleged conspiracy in this case involves several victims who were trafficked from China in order to engage in prostitution at karaoke nightclubs on Saipan.

He said one of these karaoke nightclubs was known as "Yelling" or "Yelin" karaoke and also as Karaoke Music Hall and was located in the MS Villagomez Building in Chalan Kanoa.

Berline said the MS Villagomez Building was

owned and operated at that time by Villagomez.

The lawyer said all three of the alleged victims in this case identify Villagomez as the "big boss."

Berline said Fen Nu Li was the manager or *mamasan* of Yelling Karaoke, also known as Karaoke Music Hall.

Berline said Li identifies her employer and boss as Villagomez, also known as Kiyu.

The lawyer said Li states that she received a salary from Villagomez in the amount of \$400 per month and paid from a bank account belonging to MSV Real Property.

He said Li rented the Yelling Karaoke from Villagomez.

Berline said Villagomez obtained a business license, liquor license, and food license for the karaoke as well as handling tax preparation for the business.

Berline said Villagomez obtained immigration status for Miss Li.

Villagomez allegedly obtained a credit card terminal for use at the karaoke and the funds went into Villagomez's bank account.

Villagomez would allegedly deduct expenses and rent and pay the balance to Li.

Villagomez also allegedly brought fruit and alcohol to the karaoke for resale to customers and sometimes took cash directly from the karaoke.

Berline said Ling Li, a waitress at Yelling Karaoke, disclosed an encounter with Villagomez where the latter offered to obtain immigration status

for one or more of the women working at the karaoke club.

In order to curry favor with Villagomez, the women allegedly accompanied him to another karaoke called Golden Bell KTV where they served him alcohol.

Later, the women allegedly went with Villagomez to a strip club in Garapan.

After that, the group went back to Yelling Karaoke with all of the alleged victims in this case and other unindicted co-conspirators.

Berline said Villagomez was interviewed by an investigator for defendant Lin's previous counsel at his office in the MS Villagomez Building.

Berline said Villagomez admits that he knew Lin and had been out with him for dinner.

Berline said Villagomez admitted going to the karaoke bar in his building to collect rent and sometimes to have a drink or drop off his preferred dark beer at least 10 times.

The lawyer said Villagomez did not deny obtaining the business license and a credit card machine for the karaoke.

Berline said Villagomez generally denied knowing any of the women involved in this case or of any prostitution activity at the karaoke in his building.

Berline concluded that Villagomez's alleged involvement in and knowledge of the prostitution scheme at the center of this case, and Villagomez's relationship with judge Manglona as brother and sister, "gives rise to the appearance of impartiality."

NEWLY

From Page 1

the CNMI, Kinji Shinoda.

"We are here to announce the formation of the Japan Northern Marianas Descent Association. This association's main goal is to promote and support the ties between the CNMI and Japan...and to also strengthen the ties between the people of Japan and the people of the Commonwealth," he said.

Tenorio said that the association's main goal is to locate the families of NMDs of Japanese descent and connect them.

"The association aims to find and reconnect those families who have lost contact or connection after many past years...I would like to convey to the community that the JNMDA is open to anyone interested to join in the hopes of reconnecting the people of Japan and the people of the Commonwealth," he said.

According to Shinoda, since his arrival back in May 2017, he has seen the plummeting numbers in Japanese tourists and Japanese businesses.

"I feel pity that the historical ties between Japan and the CNMI, we are slowly losing...Japanese businesses and Japanese tourists are getting smaller and smaller almost every month until finally a few months ago the direct flight between Japan and Saipan

[Delta Airlines] pulled out. That means that Japan and CNMI no longer have that direct contact. It means that our mental distance...is getting farther and farther," he said.

Shinoda said that he completely appreciates and supports the efforts behind the establishment of the association.

"This is why I highly appreciate Uncle Dave (David M. Sablan) and president Norm and attorney Vince (Seman) for the tremendous effort to establish this association and I sincerely hope that this association will be the starting point to make once again historical tie between Japan and the Northern Marianas," he said.

Tenorio said that the JNMDA is open to anyone and is not limited to just Japanese descendants.

"We hope that individuals who are interested to join the association are kindly welcomed...it is a nonprofit and nonpolitical nature, it is purely a good-willed group of people looking over the interests of the community and extending in any way possible to help enhance our economic development especially in our tourist industry," he said.

During the press conference yesterday, the association also offered a moment of silence and a short prayer for those families who are currently suffering from the devastation brought by Super Typhoon Maria that passed the Ryukyu Islands early this week.

CNMI law enforcement submits HIDTA petition

A collaborative effort between CNMI local law enforcement agencies comprising of the Office of the Attorney General, the Department of Public Safety, Division of Customs Service and the Commonwealth Ports Police resulted in a submission on July 3, 2018, a petition for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area designation with the National Office of Drug Control Policy in Washington, D.C.

The HIDTA program was created by Congress in accordance with the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 and is administered by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Federal financial assistance is provided to federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies and territories operating in regions determined to be affected by drug trafficking and aims to reduce illegal drug trafficking and production.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan states, "The CNMI has seen an increase in the use, manufacturing, and traffick-

ing of illegal drugs. The illicit trade heavily impacts the CNMI by increasing violent crimes, placing families in jeopardy and perpetuating fear in the community."

He continues, "As each branch of the Commonwealth government and community stakeholders have made efforts to address the drug problems, the CNMI is limited in resources and due to our remote location, we are faced with unique obstacles."

"Given HIDTA designation and federal support and collaboration, the Petitioners will be able to rise above the challenges in the fight against drug importation, interdiction, and prosecution," the AG concludes.

The petition was made with the support of CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), Delegate Gregorio Kili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Secretary of Finance Larrisa Larson, and Drug Court manager TaAnn Kabua-Demapam. **(PR)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Secretary of Finance Larrisa Larson, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero, Customs Service director Jose Mafnas, and members of CNMI's law enforcement agencies met for a brief presentation by Attorney General Edward Manibusan last Friday, July 6, at the Governor's Office conference room.

CUC: Power interruption on July 11, 14

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. announced that there would be a couple of power interruption this week and they are scheduled on July 11 and 14.

The July 11 power outage will be on feeder 4 and affect Chalan Savana in Wireless in Ridge from 9am to 1pm. However, water wells and wastewater lift stations will not be affected. CUC plans on replacing a corroded conductor

The power outage on July 14 will be on Feeder 1 and 3 Double Circuit and affect Sadog Tasi and some sections of Puerto Rico from 5am to 10am. Sadog Tasi Treatment Plant, S1, S4, S8, and S9 wastewater lift sta-

tions will be affected. Fortunately, no water wells will be affected by the power outage. CUC intends on replacing the two wooden poles with concrete poles.

CUC said the objective for the power interruptions is to de-energize utility lines and authorize CUC linemen the capability to take hold of utilities of the power distribution system. Under this case, CUC advises people to use alternate pathways or stay cautious when driving through these regions.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282 or monitor its facebook page at www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/. **(Fahim Uddin)**

Youth Summer Camp at San Isidro kicks off

The Carolinian Affairs Office and the Division of Youth services kicked off their Youth Summer Camp at the San Isidro Youth Learning Center yesterday.

It's the third Youth Summer Camp the two agencies conducted this summer.

The camp is for children ages between 6 and 12 and is held daily, Monday-Friday, 7:30am-11:30am.

Last week Tuesday, a Carolinian conference conducted a presentation about the Summer Youth Camp at the Legislature and discussed how the event would further promote the heritage of the CNMI's in-

digenous people.

After their first successful Youth Summer camps last month at the Carolinian Utt and Kagman Community Center, CAO and DYS remain optimistic for their next Youth Summer Camp beginning this week.

The children will be participating in local activities such as dancing, weaving, food preparation, mwaar, beads, and salt making, and much more.

To register or for more information, call CAO at 234-6384/5 or the Division of Youth Services 664-2550/2562. **(Fahim Uddin)**

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McDonald's donates \$1K for *man'amko* film showing

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

McDonald's Saipan is extending a helping hand to support the showing of the *man'amko* film entitled *The Forgotten Islands* at the Regal Theater.

Senior citizens who are active members of the Office on Aging put the film together.

McDonald's Saipan owner and operator Marcia Ayuyu said that her heart is close to the senior citizens of the CNMI.

"To see older people doing so many things at the *man'amko* center like dancing, playing bingo, use the computer exercising, singing songs, and living life to the fullest touches my heart... Sometimes I see senior citi-

zens just stay at home but here at the center you see them enjoying life even if some of them don't have anybody with them at home anymore."

"...This is to show our love for our senior citizens. I'm really proud of them because they don't get tired and they really motivate themselves to do many things. I am also a member of Rotary [Club of] Saipan and during Thanksgiving, we treat them, play games and dance with them, and it is something I always look forward to," she added.

Saipan Seniors Advisory Council president Terry Soroza said that donations from McDonald's and other companies will help them fund the showing of *The Forgotten*



BEA CABRERA

McDonald's Saipan owner and operator Marcia Ayuyu with the cast and crew of the movie *The Forgotten Islands* that features senior citizens from the Office on Aging.

Islands at Regal Theater every Wednesday night for five weeks starting July 25.

"McDonald's has been helping us all the time and we are thankful for that. We wanted to share this film to the community as all actors are *man'amko* members... you can see some are in wheelchairs... all members who showed interest in joining the film shooting even if they cannot stand are in the movie."

Soroza said the movie is relevant because majority of the people on the island some-

times forget their history, culture, and good manners. This movie will remind them of those values and bring back the culture of the people in the Marianas, she added.

According to Office on Aging director Walter Manglona, who is also the director, scriptwriter, and editor of the movie, the proceeds of the film showing will go directly to the *man'amko* fundraising account.

"The proceeds from movie tickets sales will go to their fundraising account that helps

fund special activities, help procure recreational equipment like computers, and anything that they can use at the center to make it more fun," she said.

Manglona added this will help the *man'amko* to accomplish their goals and mission, adding that their goal is to remain active, healthy, involved, interested, as well as travel to Tinian, Rota, and Guam to meet other *man'amko* there.

"It is an original film entirely shot on Saipan where we incorporated action, fantasy, and adventure into it. We stayed away from the genre of horror as we wanted to make it more interesting and to have a mix of actual history and fantasy plot lines to make the story cinematic," he added.

Manglona said that the community could expect more films and similar activities from the *man'amko* members.

"In our program we do a lot of inter-generational activities to be able to strengthen ties and eliminate the generation gap. I regularly meet with the *man'amko* members and inform them that they are the role models of the young generation."

"I get a lot of feedback from them that a lot of people dismiss senior citizens because they are old and that's why activities like this supports our mission to show people that senior citizens can still do it," he added.

The Forgotten Islands movie tickets are available only at the Office on Aging on Middle Road across Gold's Gym at \$15 each.

» The Forgotten Islands to be shown at Regal Theater starting July 25



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-18-IFB-016

PUTENG DRIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Puteng Drive Road Improvement Project**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **June 26, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **July 13, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **July 26, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW18-IFB-016"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time July 26, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, July 26, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **July 26, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **August 6, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, August 8, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on July 26, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Ninety (90) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of One Hundred (US\$100.00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP18-COTA/FTA-114

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 26, 2018 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

**"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY"**

THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **JUNE 26, 2018** AT COTA, OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, 2ND FLOOR SUITE 216 MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA, NARU LOOP, SUSUPE, SAIPAN.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO MR. JADE MANGUBAT AT cota16assistant@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, 4:30, LOCAL TIME, JULY 13, 2018.**

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT, BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH FTA FEDERAL CONTRACT CLAUSES AS APPLICABLE.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A-D). THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
S/A FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Alfred P. Taitano & Dolores DG. Taitano
P.O. Box 7431 SVRB
Saipan, MP 96950
670-256-0326

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF)
THE PETITION FOR)
APPOINTMENT OF)
GUARDIANSHIP FOR:) FCD GU
ALFRED JULIAN) CIVIL ACTION
DE GUZMAN TAITANO) NO. 18-0255

An Incompetent)
BY:) **NOTICE OF**
ALFRED P. TAITANO) **HEARING**
& **DOLORES DE**)
GUZMAN TAITANO)
Petitioners)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named by Alfred Pua Taitano & Dolores De Guzman Taitano, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A Hearing of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before Hon. Teresa Kim-Tenorio on the 13th day of August, 2018 at 9:00am or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

CUC gets help from EPA for Rota

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is getting all the help it could get from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency when it comes to safeguarding the water supply in the island of Rota.

"CUC is working with EPA to fund the safeguard and protection of the main water cave that supplies the majority of the islands water needs," said CUC in Rota's water quality report that they recently released.

"In addition, several new pressure reducing valves and relocation of the main water tank near the airport to a new site at a higher elevation will establish a fully pressured systems that relies on little to no power demand."

The report was released to inform CUC's consumers on the water service that they deliver. "Our goal is to provide you and your family a safe and dependable supply of drinking water."

"Today, 100 percent of all Rota water customers enjoy 24-hour water service. Our

CUC water employees continue to strive to deliver a quality product to all of our customers and to protect the CNMI's water resources."

The report said they continue to improve their operations, response time in addressing problems, and strategic planning for the entire CNMI with their main goal is reducing non-revenue waterloos on all three islands—Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"To control bacterial contamination in our water, CUC water operators add trace amounts of chlorine to the water before it is distributed into the pipelines to you, our customers," added CUC in their report.

Microbial (viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife); inorganic (salts and metals from storm water, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming); pesticides and herbicides (agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses); synthetic organic chemicals (industrial

processes and petroleum production that could also come from gas stations); and radioactive (naturally occurring or result of oil and gas production and mining activities) are some of the contaminants that may be present in source water.

They are also advising people with sensitive immune systems—vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population—to seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers.

These are immune-compromised people either with cancer that are undergoing chemotherapy, those who had organ transplants, those who have HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly and infants that could be at risk from infections.

For more information, call CUC's water laboratory at 322-5140 or report any problems at 664-4282. CUC's customers could also visit their website cucgov.org or check their Facebook page [facebook/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation](https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation).

Case against former Commerce secretary, wife terminated

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Friday ordered that former Commerce secretary James A. Santos and his wife, Joaquina V. Santos, be discharged from supervised release.

Manglona also ordered that the proceedings in the case against the Santos couple be terminated.

The judge issued the order following the request of U.S. probation officer assistant Jua-

nette David-Atalig.

According to David-Atalig, James and Joaquina Santos have complied with the conditions of supervised release imposed by the court.

David-Atalig said the supervised release for the couple both expired on April on April 20, 2018.

The Santos couple and former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez were convicted for their role in a conspiracy to defraud the

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. through needless purchases of a de-scaling chemical called Rydlyme.

In August 2009, the District Court sentenced the Santos couple to six years and six months in prison each. Due to mistake in calculation, in 2013, the court re-sentenced Villagomez to nine years in prison, an increase of 21 months from the original sentence. The three had already served their prison terms.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

SSHS opens registration for SY 2018-2019

Saipan Southern High School announced that the

last day to turn in registration for school year 2018-2019 would be on July 31, 2018. Required documents must be copied before turn-

ing in. If there is any other information or question, call SSHS' main office at 664-4000. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to my godson, Logan Luke. May God continue to bless and guide you today and always! We love you.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 3rd birthday to our Maria Jesusa "MJ" Cabrera Helge. May your day be filled with love and joy and many, many more to come. We love you!

MHS student orientations set

Marianas High School will be conducting their school year 2018-2019 student orientations on the following dates:

■ Aug. 9, 9am-12pm: Incoming freshmen and new transfer students; school gym.

■ Aug. 10, 9am-12pm: Sophomores; school gym.

■ Aug. 13, 9am-12pm: Juniors; school gym.

■ Aug. 14, 9am-12pm: Seniors; school gym.

MHS students can now register for their courses by visiting our school website at marianashighschool.com or logging in directly to <https://goo.gl/forms/bJKezkcxGoS9WVx2>. (PR)



Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp



Janice E. Castro
Director, DCRM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ART RIDGE VILLAGE HOMES PERMIT APPLICATION NO. SMS-2018-X-173

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing for the proposed construction and operation of the Art Ridge Village Homes.

The Triple J Saipan-Art Ridge Village Homes, LLC is proposing to construct the Art Ridge Village Homes apartment building on privately leased properties on Beach Road in Garapan, Saipan, at the current Triple J Motors location.

The proposed Art Ridge Village Homes development will be a 7-story low-income apartment building with 48 units in total. Each floor will consist of eight units with each unit having three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Each apartment measures about 1,500 square feet and will include an energy efficient refrigerator, range/oven, an air conditioner and ceiling fans, solar water heaters, typhoon shutters, parking and other amenities.

The public hearing for this project is scheduled for **Monday, July 23, 2018, 5PM at the BECQ Main Conference Room, 2nd Floor.**

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304, or sent by fax at 664-8315. The project files are open for review and comments during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application records and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed projects. Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Art Ridge Village Homes project.

/s/ Janice E. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
State Rehabilitation Council
&
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 501521 • Navy Hill – Bldg. N2
Saipan, MP 96950



The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), in collaboration with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC), is seeking public comments on four (4) OVR policies, one of which is the new Section 32 - Pre-Employment Transition Services and revisions to the following:

- Section 3 - Equal Rights
- Section 7 - Management Information System (MIS)
- Section 8 - Application, Assessment for Determination of Eligibility, Eligibility, and Extension.

SRC and OVR believe that feedback and comments are valuable for program improvement. The policies can be reviewed on the OVR website: www.ovrgov.net. Comments on these policies can be emailed to Josephine Tudela at jo@ovrgov.net, by phone at (670) 322-6537, or by mail to P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950.

Comments will be received up until close of business on August 8, 2018.

Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Ghilisou,

/s/ Arlene Kay A. Yamagata, M.S., C.R.C., Director

Dean Vincent Manglona and Maryann A. Manglona are newly minted Certified Public Accountants in Guam. The brother-and-sister duo, originally from Rota, passed the rigorous four-part Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination.

Dean, an associate attorney at Guam's Civile & Tang, PLLC law office, earned a B.S. in Accounting from Marquette University in 2005 and received his J.D. from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 2008. He is admitted to practice law in New Mexico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, the District Court of Guam, and the U.S. Tax Court. He previously worked as a staff attorney at the Guam Supreme Court.

He said the CPA examina-

Manglona siblings pass CPA exam



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dean Vincent Manglona was recently sworn in to the U.S. District Court of Guam. Pictured, from left, Vincent A. Manglona, Benita Manglona, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, Dean Vincent Manglona, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, and Maryann A. Manglona.

tion process was not an easy one, "Working full-time as an attorney and studying after work was a true challenge. But it has always been my goal to become a licensed attorney and a Certified Public Accountant." He added, "I enjoy the interplay between financial and legal principles."

Maryann earned a B.S. in Business Administration as an Accounting Major at

Marquette University in 2007. Since 2013, she has worked at the Department of Revenue and Taxation in Guam as a Revenue Agent. She previously worked as a senior auditor at Ernst & Young LLP.

Maryann explained that studying for the exam was a huge time commitment. "I spent many, many hours preparing for the exam, going through hundreds of practice questions. The sacrifice was definitely worth it," she said.

She noted that the success would not be possible without the support of her loved ones. "I can't thank my family enough for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout the entire process. My mother Benita, who is also a CPA, provided much inspiration," she added. (PR)



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

VA direct loan program outreach on July 24

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp., in collaboration with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, will be conducting outreach services regarding VA Native American Direct Loan Program for all the CNMI veterans.

A representative from the Department of Veterans Office will be present to answer any questions regarding the program. The outreach will be held on July 24, 2018, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan from 8am to 11:30am.

For more information you may contact the NMHC Mortgage and Credit Division staff at (670)234-6866/9447/7670 or you may email Cherie Castanares,

VA representative, at cherie.castanares@va.gov or contact her at (808)433-0483. (PR)

Release of PH passports announced

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, has announced the release of Philippine passports to those who renewed their passports on May 21, 22, and 23, 2018. You can pick up your passports at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg D, 2nd Floor, top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (12pm-1pm break time).

Bring old passport and receipt. For any inquiries or details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

Saipan Agricultural Fair on Aug. 4

Saipan Agricultural Fair Association is pleased to inform the community that the 35th Saipan Agricultural Fair will take place on Aug. 4, 2018, 9am-2pm at the Civic Center, Susupe.

Rule book and pre-registration forms (fees apply) for the adult plant and animal competitions are available at the Department of Lands Natural Resources offices in Kagman and Lower Base, Office of Animal Health Services, the Garapan Public Market, and Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research and Extension Education Services, Building F. Rule Book and Pre-registration forms for the Youth Division are available at the NMC-CREES Main Office, Building F.

Deadline to submit the pre-registration forms is July 20, 2018. Proclamation signing for this event is on July 30, 2018 at 10am at the Governor's Office Conference Room, Capital Hill. Farmers, ranchers, and the general public are encouraged to attend.

Please see below for contact information:

■ Plant Division: Joshua Santos, 256-3319

■ Animal Division: Juan Taman, 234-6169

■ Youth Division: Lorenza Aldan, 237-6876

■ Vendors Division: Tina DLG Camacho, 256-3319. (PR)

Survivors & caregivers support meeting on July 11

All people facing cancer, their

family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 11, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant.

To RSVP or for more information, please call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. (PR)

Witnesses host convention

The public is invited to attend a free annual event being hosted by Jehovah's Witnesses on the weekend of July 13-15 at their Kingdom Hall in Gualo Rai. With the theme "Be Courageous!" this year's convention will focus on practical ways to enjoy a

happy life now and have a real hope for the future.

Among the convention's 54 presentations will be Bible-based talks, audio dramas, interviews and short videos. A multimedia presentation will demonstrate what real people—and even five animals—can teach us about courage.

A Sunday morning public discourse will explain why Jesus told a grieving father: "Have no fear." (Mark 5:36) And those in attendance Sunday Afternoon will see Jonah get Swallowed by a fish in the feature film: "The Story of Jonah—A Lesson in Courage and Mercy."

Sessions begin each day at 9:20am. Admission is free and collections will not be taken.

For more information, visit the website: jw.org. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 10, 2000

OIA to help CNMI lure new airlines

Office of Insular Affairs Director Ferdinand Aranza has pledged to continue assisting the Northern Marianas government in attracting other airlines to service the islands, but said such effort depends on the market conditions. OIA, which has jurisdiction over the CNMI, has been approached by the Commonwealth to draw support from federal agencies, particularly the Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration, to press its demand for direct flights to Saipan from key Asian cities. Mr. Aranza, who visited the island last week, said his office has been "working very hard behind the scenes" with these agencies to encourage more direct flights to the CNMI.

Funds investment drops \$33 million

The Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund's off-island investment reported a net loss of \$33,424,334 for the months of April and May this year due to the volatile performance of its investments in stock markets. However, the portfolio return for the current fiscal year (October 1999 to May 2000) still jumped 11.38 percent or a total of \$37,925,409. This brings to \$371 million the total investment of the Fund for FY 2000. Breakdown of decline in Fund's investment: \$17 million in April and \$16 million in May. Some of the board directors expressed

concern on the continuous decline in the Fund's investment in Asia during Friday's board meeting.

July 10, 2004

Promoting health through music

When a person living on Saipan has a medical problem, typically they will make the trip to the Commonwealth Health Care facility in Garapan, doctors and nurses will find a solution that best addresses the condition. When issues arise for the Department of Public Health or the CHC, they typically turn to their public information officer to update the community and to keep them informed of any safety and public health related information. John Paul Douglas has been working as the PIO for the DPH and CHC for just about a year now, and it would seem that position has been mutually beneficial. Douglas strives to develop ways in which to educate the public about the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle, although he admits he has some room for improvement a little closer to home.

FEMA now processing NMI's request for aid

Gov. Juan N. Babauta is optimistic that President Bush would declare a major disaster in the CNMI following the onslaught of Typhoon Tingting, soon after receiving notice from the Federal Emergency Management Agency that the CNMI's plea for assistance is now being processed. Besides the processing of FEMA's public assistance and hazard mitigation assistance, the agency's acting regional director Karen E. Armes assured that her office's preliminary damage assessment team would assist the CNMI in its efforts to avail of U.S. Small Business Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance. Babauta requested for Bush's disaster declaration on July 7,

based on the results of the joint PDA.

July 10, 2005

PSS looking into privatization of school buses

To rid itself of the problems caused by school buses that are vandalized by the same students that use them, the Public School System is looking at the possibility of privatizing the operation. Board of Education vice chair Dino Jones raised the suggestion during the regular board meeting held at the PSS office last July 8. Jones said in order to protect school buses from unruly school children the PSS should consider privatization of the service. The board had a lengthy discussion regarding the school buses last Friday. Secretary and treasurer Marja Lee Taitano said the board has been considering the subject matter for seven years now. Board member Herman T. Guerrero said the idea is not far-fetched for the CNMI since public schools in Hawaii have already privatized their school bus operations.

Link to Anatahan partially restored

The Emergency Management Office said yesterday telemetry of seismic signals from Anatahan has been partly restored, reporting that tremor and ash emissions from the volcano remain at high levels. Yesterday morning, ash plume rose to 20,000 feet and extended about 60 nautical miles southwest of Anatahan, based on satellite monitoring by the Air Force Weather Agency. Volcanic tremor levels remained high, the agencies said. They said a single long-period earthquake was recorded about 8:49am, which could possibly indicate an explosion. Recently, strong eruptions sent ash clouds to 40,000 feet. On June 19, a 2.6-minute eruptive pulse sent ash to 50,000 feet, matching the intensity of Anatahan's strongest historical eruption last April 6, which also sent ash to 50,000 feet.

Kensington Hotel's 2nd Anniversary Celebration



Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), left, was among the special guests that joined the celebration of Kensington Hotel's second year anniversary.



Fireworks lit up the night sky to end the day's celebration.



Kensington Hotel president and general Manager Matt Park, center, and HANMI chair and Pacific Islands Club Saipan general manager Gloria Cavanagh, fifth left, with other PIC executives.



Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, right, and Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chair Gloria Cavanagh watch the performances of local dancers and South Korean all-girl group Odd Eye.



Reps. Joe Itibus (R-Saipan), left, and Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), right, enjoy the show with their spouses.



Rep. Larry Leon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), second left, Justice Perry B. Inos, third left, and Kensington's Debra Inos, right, join their family and friends.



Kensington Hotel staff are always ready with a smile to assist all guests.



Tourists from China and Korea join in the fun by learning some of the dances with local performers.

Opinion

Hafa Adahi!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Trump didn't gut affirmative action, but its future is far from secure

The Trump administration's decision to withdraw an Obama-era "guidance document" encouraging colleges to take race into account in their decisions about admissions is disappointing though not surprising. This is an administration that lacks a commitment to meaningful racial diversity in education or to the kind of affirmative action policies that encourage it.

Fortunately, last week's actions by Attorney General Jeff Sessions don't change the law. The Supreme Court decisions the Obama administration relied on are still in effect, and admissions officers may still adopt race-conscious admissions policies if they are necessary to achieve the educational advantages of "diverse learning environments."

Most universities that consider race as one factor in admissions decisions will continue to do so regardless of what the administration says — so long as they are not forbidden by state law from doing so. (In some places they are. Under Proposition 209, approved by voters in 1996, state universities in California are prohibited from granting "preferential treatment to any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin.")

The real problem is not that the Trump administration withdrew the guidance; it is that the Supreme Court over the years has taken far too grudging a view of when race-conscious policies are justified. And with the retirement of Justice Anthony Kennedy, it isn't clear that even those precedents are secure.

The best historical, constitutional and moral argument for allowing universities to take race into account in admissions decisions is that a legacy of discrimination has deprived many African-American and other minority students of the educational opportunities enjoyed by other applicants. When universities began to try to diversify their student bodies in the 1970s, compensation for the effects of past discrimination was an important objective, though not the only one.

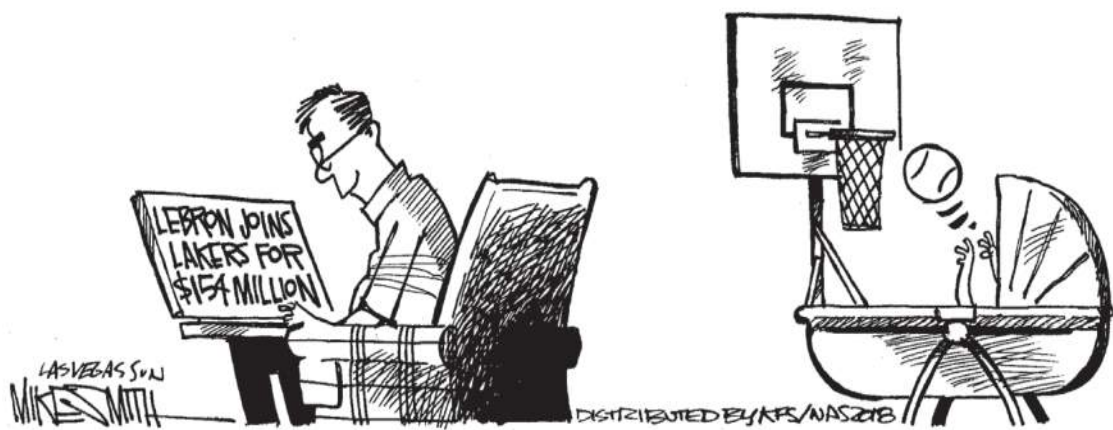
But when the Supreme Court upheld some use of race in admissions decisions in its 1978 decision in *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, the focus was on another goal, what Justice Lewis Powell referred to as "the attainment of a diverse student body." Diversity, Powell noted, promoted the atmosphere of "speculation, experiment and creation that (that is) so essential to quality of higher education."

The court reaffirmed Powell's rationale in a 2003 decision involving the University of Michigan Law School and again in 2016 when it upheld the University of Texas' policy of taking race into account in filling a quarter of the seats in its freshman class. (The rest of the places were filled on the basis of the applicants' high school class rank.)

Yet even as it did so, the court cautioned universities that the "diversity" rationale wasn't a blank check. It said that the University of Texas going forward must "tailor its approach in light of changing circumstances, ensuring that race plays no greater role than is necessary to meet its compelling interest." That makes it difficult for universities to navigate the legal complexities, which is why the Obama administration offered guidance.

The narrowness of the Supreme Court's "diversity" justification places a needless straitjacket on universities that seek

See TRUMP on Next Page



Come on, Obama, get in the game

To the annoyance of many Democrats, former President Barack Obama has largely floated above the political fray instead of actively leading the anti-Trump brigade. He's told associates that he doesn't want to aggravate political polarization and wants to preserve his credibility by speaking out only selectively and on key occasions.

If that's the case, now is such a time.

He doesn't need to sound the alarm about President Donald Trump's bad policies and vicious behavior. Others are doing that.

Instead, it's the right moment for Obama to lay down a marker for Democrats, subtly warning against moving to extremes in response to Trump. Liberals, he thinks, need to "mix idealism with practicality," according to an article last month in *New York* magazine.

Actually, in this political season, mainstream Democrats have done well in contested primaries. A New York congressional contest last month in which a young socialist defeated a Democratic House leader has been widely and wrongly over-interpreted by both opponents and enthusiasts as a sign that Democrats are veering left.

But Democrats are making some mistakes that Obama could help correct. In response to Trump's policy of separating immigrant children from their families, politicians including Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts have called for eliminating the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. Trump relishes that debate, which deflects attention from his abuse of children. There's also pressure on Democrats to insist that the only way to improve the health care system is to turn it over to the government, and to demand Trump's impeachment now.

Obama could make his presence felt as midterm congressional elections approach by pushing back without picking fights. He could call for building on the Affordable Care Act, his signature health care law, instead of scrapping it in favor of a single-payer system. He could recommend letting the investigations of Trump by special counsel Robert Mueller and others play out before considering impeachment. He could urge that the focus on immigration issues be redirected toward helping children and families instead of fear-mongering. And by his calm example he could remind allies to respect civility even in turbulent times.

The 44th president's standing is such that he'd provide some cover for Democratic candidates who are being pressured by the party's left wing on these issues.

He's the only one who possibly can reach younger voters, angry activists and suburban women simultaneously. Bill and Hill-

By **ALBERT R. HUNT**
Bloomberg View

ary Clinton have lost credibility, Warren doesn't want to alienate the left, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is worrying about holding on to her leadership job if Democrats win the House and Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer wouldn't be taken seriously by these constituencies.

It's a mistake for Obama to ignore the elements in his party who believe, as the historian Sean Wilentz has written, that "the only way to fight right-wing populism is with left-wing populism."

Trump is losing the border war politically, so when critics attack an enforcement agency instead of the policymaker, it plays into his hands. Likewise, Republicans are on the defensive on the big health care issues, having misled the country for eight years in their assault against universal health insurance and having turned to a president who cares little about the topic. Changing the subject to debating the merits of what would be an immensely complicated, expensive and controversial single-payer system throws these Republicans a life raft.

In the era of Trump, another canard is that only shrill voices are heard. Over the past eight months, the three biggest Democratic winners, Sen. Doug Jones of Alabama, Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam and Rep. Conor Lamb of Pennsylvania, all are moderate in manner as well as politics. Two Democratic incumbent senators in states Trump carried, Bob Casey of Pennsylvania and Sherrod Brown of Ohio, are known by colleagues as nice guys. They're both likely to win by double digits this November.

There are others, however, whom the popular Obama might assist. He's vowed to help the Democrats' redistricting campaign, which seeks to reverse some of the huge gains Republicans scored by creating partisan congressional and state legislative lines after the 2010 census. Democrats were asleep at the switch then, when Obama was president and leader of his party. He also plans to selectively campaign for a few Senate candidates.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Limiting gay blood donors is outdated

In my senior year I helped organize a blood drive in my high school gymnasium. I felt newly mature as I signed the consent form; the idea that my transient discomfort potentially could help save a life inspired me, and I committed to making blood donation a habit. When I received my American Red Cross Donor Card weeks later indicating that I was “O-negative” — a universal donor — I became all the more motivated.

I’m now, years later, a physician who sees patients benefit from transfusions every day, from children with sickle cell disease to adults with leukemia. My husband sees blood products being put to work even more dramatically on his shifts in the emergency department, as they’re rapidly infused into trauma patients. When there’s no time for matching blood types, it’s O-negative blood like mine that is pumped into these patients’ veins.

The hospitals where I work regularly broadcast requests for donors via email. “Immediate Need for Type O-Negative Whole Blood Donors,” they implore. About 7 percent of the U.S. population has O-negative blood, and they can receive blood only from other O-negatives. Consequently, O-negative donors must provide enough supply to completely meet that population’s demand in addition to those whose blood types are uncertain at the time of transfusion. Critical shortages are commonplace.

I cannot respond to these calls.

Many people, including fellow doctors, don’t realize that the Food and Drug Administration bans all gay men from giving blood products unless they have been sexually abstinent for the

previous 12 months. (A previous lifetime ban on blood donations from gay men was repealed in 2015.) Unfortunately, these guidelines are derived from a legacy of fear rather than scientific fact. In the early days of the AIDS epidemic, thousands of people contracted HIV from transfusions. But back then HIV tests were less sensitive and couldn’t begin to detect the virus until 6 to 12 weeks after infection.

Today’s blood screening technology detects HIV within nine to 14 days of exposure with near-perfect sensitivity. Advances in research on HIV transmission also have provided highly reliable methods for determining if someone is at risk of recent infection based on their behaviors, not sexual orientation. A patient’s chance of getting HIV from a blood transfusion in the United States today is 1 in 1.5 million.

In light of these advances, there is little reason to retain a system in which needed donors are excluded based on sexual orientation while heterosexuals with multiple concurrent partners are given the green light. Under the current system, for example, a straight man with an active chlamydia or herpes infection is not prohibited from donating blood, even though such infections suggest recent high-risk sexual contact. In a country where nearly a fourth of new HIV diagnoses are coming from heterosexual transmission, this double standard makes no sense unless the fundamental goal is discrimination, not safety.

Not all countries do what we do. Gay men can donate blood in Argentina, Italy, Spain, Poland, Russia and others. Rather than screening out potential donors based on sexual orientation,

By **C. NICHOLAS CUNEO**

Los Angeles Times

Dr. C. Nicholas Cuneo is a resident in internal medicine and pediatrics at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Boston Children’s Hospital.



countries like Italy engage in individual sexual risk assessment and evaluation (so-called “assess and test”). Using this evidence-driven approach, Italy has seen no increase in transfusion-based transmission of HIV. France, which, like us, has a one-year deferral policy for sexually active gay men, is currently being taken before the European Court of Human Rights for discrimination. If successful, the case could have implications across Europe.

I am hardly the only one pointing out that the FDA needs to update its blood-donor rules. The American Medical Association has proposed that the FDA “ensure blood donation bans or deferrals are applied to donors according to their individual level of risk and are not based on sexual orientation alone.” The American Association of Blood Banks, America’s Blood Centers and the American Red Cross have all similarly advocated science-based approaches to blood safety. Studies estimate that if the FDA policy were revised, an additional 219,200 pints of lifesaving blood could safely be donated each year.

The science is solid. The current FDA policy, on the other hand, is just discriminatory, casting a shadow on an otherwise venerable practice.

An assault on notions of right and wrong

To anyone who had eyes to see and a half-working moral compass in 1991, the Handycam video of Rodney King’s beating by four Los Angeles Police Department cops showed brutality, sadism and torture.

The primitive violence insulted the heart.

But then came patronizing attorneys, media exploitation of racism, weird language and bureaucratic euphemisms. In the Simi Valley courtroom where the case against the police who beat King was heard, evil was relentlessly described as the height of professionalism.

Jurors came to doubt their gut sense of right and wrong, and they acquitted the cops.

There’s plenty of talk in Trump times about an assault on factual truth. But the more vicious attacks are on human perception, common sense and baseline notions of right and wrong.

The trauma of digitization, beginning in 1991 with the introduction of the World Wide Web, has not yet been tallied. But no job, no relationship, no way of life or form of knowledge has been untouched by it. We have had to adapt to pervasive changes in mental and moral life on an impossibly tight timetable.

Religious institutions, which at their best offer simple, workaday instructions on how to be good, now seem to represent ideological communities as much as spiritual ones. In particular, the elaborate contortions by many evangelicals to make a Christian hero out of Trump have cost that branch of religion all moral authority. Baptisms in the Southern Baptist Conference, the biggest denomination of evangelicals, have fallen to the lowest point since 1947.

But what does that leave for those seeking both moral accountability and support? The church of Fox News, where the guiding principle is spite, doesn’t do much for you when your child is sick or your spouse dies.

Into this moral vacuum has poured a torrent of sophistry.

■ Tearing babies from mothers and caging them seems monstrous; in fact it’s pragmatic.

■ Kneeling before the flag seems like peaceful protest; in fact it’s treason.

■ Dodging taxes and military service seems like greed and cowardice; in fact it’s smart.

■ Guns designed for massacres lead to massacres; in fact we need more of them.

The Trump syndicate leverages this ludicrous stuff every day. It’s repeated and amplified by trolls and botnets, Fox News, far-right haranguers like Tomi Lahren and Milo Yiannopoulos, and, of course, the president himself.

It gets loud.

And then the stupid inversions of reason are picked up by influential voices who should know better. Worse yet, they’re given a hearing, as American citizens are forced to sit for monotonous schoolings in the media conceit of “both sides.”

The argument that tearing apart families serves a worthy purpose, for example, should be rejected without debate, rejected by our very cells, as we’d reject rancid meat.

Some professional thinkers like to try out contrarianism because it’s a game their brains can afford. But for the cognitively vulnerable, it can be devastating. To take up sophistry and disavow, say, kindness, hope, prosperity, democracy and peace is a fast track to misery. You’d think for that reason only — to reduce their own suffering — people would stand by America’s self-evident truths.

Mary McCarthy, the great 20th century novelist and critic, offered insight into why some people are drawn to twisted, self-defeating beliefs.

In “Artists in Uniform,” the narrator meets a handsome Air Force colonel on a train who is intellectually insecure and eager to impress her. At sea in their flirtation, he mounts an argument he thinks is clever. Jews, he says, are Communists, traitors, liars and “chisellers.”

She recoils from his anti-Semitism, and he loses his shot with her. At the same time, she recognizes that his contempt for Jews

scious policy in a future case, Kennedy’s retirement raises the question of whether a future majority of the court might make it even harder for universities to take race into account. Whoever is chosen by President Donald Trump to succeed Kennedy should be questioned by senators about his or views on this issue.

Why does this matter? Americans are uneasy about racial classifications and even members of the court who have upheld them have expressed reluctance. In her 2003 majority opinion in the University of Michigan Law School case, Justice Sandra Day O’Connor wrote that “we expect that 25 years from now, the use of racial preferences will no longer be necessary to further the interest approved today.” That was unrealistic. The inequalities that affirmative-action programs try to address are almost certain

is not primitive racism. Instead, he has cultivated it. “For the colonel, anti-Semitism was simply an aspect of urbanity, like a knowledge of hotels or women.”

In the dark racist fairy tales of the colonel, or a wingnut like Alex Jones on Donald Trump, you can hear someone who thinks racism and xenophobia is intelligence, who thinks the distress of others is proof of his cleverness in seeing Nazis as fine people, shooting victims as paid actors and sadism as policy.

Intellectual insecurity — more even than economic insecurity — is a deeply dangerous thing to befall a people. When we’re tortured by doubts about our own wisdom and judgment, we can’t risk the humbling posture of actually learning. We become vulnerable to any nitwit belief that confirms that, whatever we lack in facts, experience or education, we make up for in innate mental firepower.

As bad money drove out good money in Weimar Germany, so bad ideas have driven out good ones in Trump’s America. The case is made ad nauseam for “critical thinking.” But that’s a luxury now. Instead it’s time for triage: We need to back off the online cacophony and trust our guts again. Clubbing Rodney King was wrong. Jailing infants is wrong. Partnering with hostile powers against American allies is wrong.

We must hold these truths to be self-evident. Or the nation will belong to a swath of cognitively vulnerable voters anxious to style themselves as stable geniuses.

to persist well beyond 2028.

And while “race-neutral” policies such as outreach and advertising to minority communities to solicit applicants are helpful, prohibiting any consideration of race makes it harder for universities to achieve their diversity goals. (That is suggested by the experience of the University of California, Berkeley, where the percentage of African-American students declined after Proposition 209 took effect and has yet to return to pre-Proposition 209 levels.)

Universities increasingly have recognized the reality of racial inequality. The courts and the administration should let them get on with the job of doing something about it.

By **VIRGINIA HEFFERNAN**

Los Angeles Times



TRUMP

From Page 10

not only to create a diverse student body, but also to redress past discrimination. Yet even this limited legal protection for affirmative action may not be permanent.

When the court upheld the University of Texas plan in 2016, it was by a 4-3 vote with Kennedy writing the majority opinion. (Justice Elena Kagan was recused from the case presumably because she had worked on it as U.S. solicitor general and there was a vacancy on the court created by the death of Justice Antonin Scalia.)

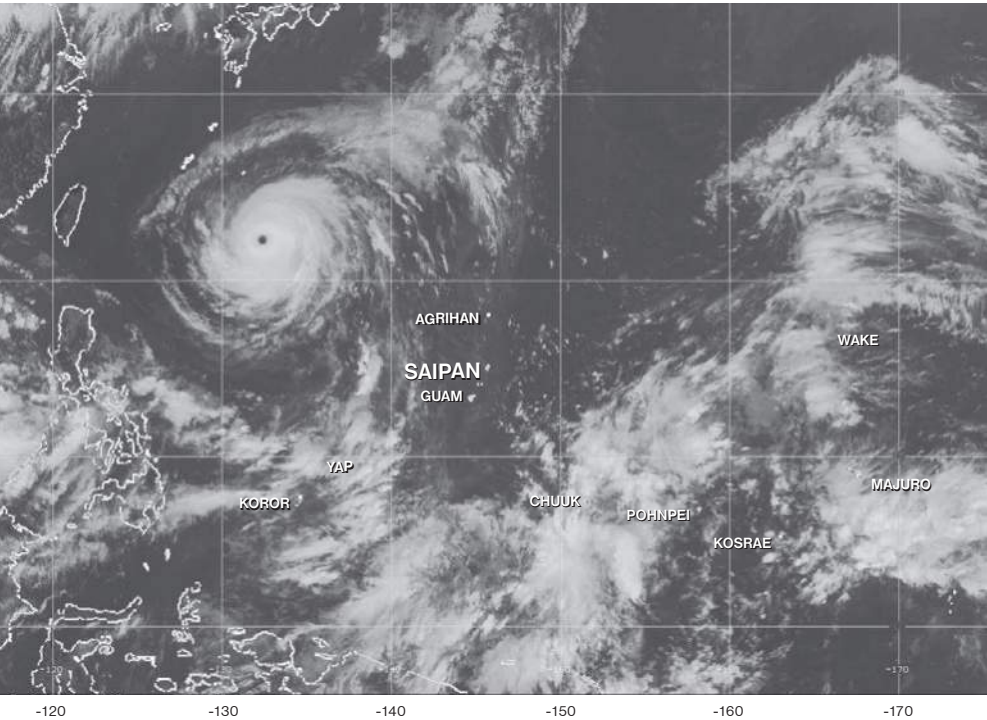
Even if one assumes that Kagan would support a race-con-

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:43 AM, MONDAY, JULY 9, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Quiet weather has returned to the Marianas, with partly cloudy skies, isolated showers, and gentle east to southeast winds. Combined seas are 5-6 feet at the buoys, split between NW and east swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 76°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57° / 50°	
Beijing	Rain	75° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	91° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 75°	
London	Partly Cloudy	75° / 57°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	87° / 70°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	55° / 39°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	93° / 72°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°	
Paris	Sunny	77° / 57°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 75°	
Rome	Sunny	88° / 70°	
Salem	Thunderstorm	94° / 72°	
San Francisco	Sunny	70° / 55°	
Seoul	Cloudy	88° / 75°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	88° / 77°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	94° / 74°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:05 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.98	
11:26 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.19	
6:19 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.74	
11:23 PM	LOW TIDE	1.09	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:45 AM	3:49 PM	-
Wednesday	3:38 AM	4:52 PM	-
Thursday	4:37 AM	5:56 PM	-
Friday	5:40 AM	6:59 PM	-
Saturday	6:46 AM	7:59 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily



Wendell Carter Jr. gets to fulfill lifelong ambition playing in NBA

By MALIKA ANDREWS
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

NEW YORK—When Wendell Carter Jr. was a third-grader in Georgia, he was given a universal homework assignment: What do you want to be when you grow up?

In Carter's case, he was asked to make a poster. Wendell's mother, Kyla, remembered her son's answer: He aspired to be a "professional basketball player" rather than specifying the NBA. Kyla didn't think the phrasing was accidental. Wendell Sr. had played professionally overseas but never made it to the NBA.

But there was something more: Carter already seemed to understand that basketball could be a job rather than just a game.

"When he got home and he was telling us about it," Kyla said, "I told him that basketball will take care of itself. We are going to teach you how to be a professional."

Carter's third-grade prophecy came true Thursday at the Barclays Center in New York when the Bulls selected the 6-foot-10 forward/center with the No. 7 pick in the NBA draft. Kyla and Wendell Sr. sat with their only child on his big night, among 25 family members and friends from Georgia, Arkansas and Mississippi who were on hand to celebrate. Carter and his parents came prepared to make a statement: They were dressed in matching Gucci outfits that took inspiration from the movie "Black Panther."

While Carter had his eyes on basketball from a young age, it's easy to envision him pursuing a professional career in banking or academia. The National Honor Society member earned a 3.8 GPA at Pace Academy in Atlanta and was accepted at Harvard before taking a scholarship



Miami Hurricanes' Dewan Huell (20) fights for a rebound with Duke Blue Devils' Marvin Bagley III (35) and Wendell Carter, Jr. (34) in the first period at the Watsco Center Monday, Jan. 15, 2018 in Miami.

CHARLES TRAINOR JR./MIAMI HERALD/TNS

to Duke, where he studied finance for a year. Carter's childhood friends recall him acing math tests, acting in school plays and sitting toward the front of his classes.

"He never sat in the back," Mark Anthony Sommerville, a former high school teammate said in a phone interview. "He can't hide. He's too big to hide."

To his friends, Carter is an avid player of the "NBA 2K" video game and a fan of hip-hop artist J. Cole and rapper Lil Baby. He likes to rap with his friend Deon Jackson, but they don't have stage names.

"It's not that serious," Jackson joked.

At Pace Academy, Carter was also one of the highest-ranked basketball prospects in the country. He scored 30 points and grabbed 20 rebounds to lead Pace to the Georgia Class AA state championship in 2016.

Pace coach Demetrius Smith made sure to tune in to the draft after a staff meeting Thursday night.

"As far as a big man, he's probably the best from Geor-

gia since Dwight Howard," Smith said. "There never has been another guy like him at our school."

Carter sacrificed some of his own offense on a Duke team that also had Marvin Bagley III and Grayson Allen—two other first-round picks. Carter averaged 13.5 points and 9.1 rebounds for the Blue Devils, serving as a more physical complement to the sinewy Bagley, whom the Kings selected at No. 2.

"The beautiful thing about Wendell is that he doesn't have to be the featured guy to have an impact," Carter's performance coach, Sekou Walton, said. "Wendell can actually help you out defensively, he can get your rebounds. His assist ratio is pretty high as well. He can work well with someone who has to have touches. Wendell is that perfect support guy, and the NBA needs more people like Wendell."

Indeed, Carter's potential lies not only in his physical gifts and scoring ability but also his unselfishness and commitment to team play.

"I have seen him do it after games too—picking up Gatorade cups and stuff like that. You just don't find too many kids that are that humble and are willing to do all the dirty work, the little stuff."

Carter's values were instilled by his parents, who raised him in Fairburn, Ga.—about 20 miles southwest of downtown Atlanta. His father, Wendell Sr., worked as an airplane mechanic at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Kyla, who holds a master's degree in education, worked as a planner for the airport's layout. Both of his parents have basketball backgrounds. Wendell Sr. played in college at Delta (Miss.) State and professionally in the Dominican Republic while Kyla, a self-described "country girl" from Mississippi, played at Ole Miss.

That pedigree shows through in Carter's polish.

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski often marveled at Carter's feel and basketball intelligence, which was instilled during regular father-son workouts on the basketball hoop set up in the driveway behind the Carter family's four-bedroom home.

When NBA Commissioner Adam Silver called Carter's name at the draft, Wendell Sr. burst into tears. He said his iPhone screen was lighting up with messages telling him to stop crying on TV, but he couldn't help it.

"It was not a sad emotion at all," Kyla said. "I am sure he had a flood of emotions from the way his career kind of happened. He didn't get drafted. He ended up going overseas. It didn't work out. And to see his son make the NBA has to be powerful. I think that was part of it—just seeing his son get to do what he wanted to do."

Put a spin on s'mores

By AMY PALANJIAN
FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

Bring the flavors of your favorite camp treat home with these delicious twists.

PUDDING PARFAITS

Layer chocolate pudding, broken graham crackers, and mini marshmallows in small containers, repeating the layers twice. Chill for 4 to 6 hours before serving to soften the graham crackers.

BROWNIES

Spread half of a batch of brownie batter in an 8x8-inch pan. Cover with graham crackers; top with remaining batter. Bake as directed. Top with mini marshmallows; broil to brown slightly.



ENERGY BITES

Combine 1 cup oats, { cup each peanut butter and graham-cracker crumbs, 1/3 cup honey, and \ cup mini chocolate chips. Chill 30 minutes. Shape into balls with a marshmallow inside each.

Disney's 'Incredibles 2' secrets: Fun facts you may not know

By SARA WHITMAN
NEWSDAY

After waiting 14 years for the 'Incredibles' sequel, dedicated fans rushed to theaters its opening weekend. The highly anticipated 'Incredibles 2' broke box office records, earning \$180 million in its first weekend and becoming the best animated debut of all time.

The sequel follows Helen (Holly Hunter), who accepts a mission to save the reputation of the Supers, while Bob (Craig T. Nelson) stays home to navigate life at home with their three kids. His role becomes trickier once baby Jack-Jack's (Eli Fucile) super powers are discovered.

Whether you're an "Incredibles" expert or a new fan, there may be things you don't know about the animated film. Here, Disney re-

leased nine secrets and fun facts about "Incredibles 2."

CHARACTER UPDATE

Advances in technology allowed filmmakers to produce their original character designs, which means all the characters got upgrades. Frozone's enhancement was a six pack.

BABY MOVES

Filmmakers studied infants and toddlers to capture Jack-Jack's movements for "Incredibles" and "Incredibles 2."

MOOD-CHANGING CLOTHING

It's not easy keeping up with three kids, especially when the toddler has newly discovered super powers. Bob understands this, so filmmakers designed his wardrobe to reflect his mood. The more tired he gets, the more grays



and beiges he wears. The more energy he builds, the brighter his clothes become.

LAVA MOUTH

It was a challenge to make a character who heaves lava appealing, so writer-director Brad Bird turned to a frog for design inspiration.

SHARP AS A SHARK

While billionaire business-

man Winston Deavor's drive and diligence resemble that of a shark's, so do his looks. His sharp edges are inspired by a shark's, and the slant on his forehead mirrors a shark's fin. His suit is also made of sharkskin.

CAT-INSPIRED

Artists modeled a more laid back animal for Winston's intelligent sister's look. Evelyn

was inspired by a confident, yet comfortable cat.

SUPER MANSION FIT FOR SUPERHEROES

The Parr family, whose house burned down at the end of the first movie, received a huge upgrade for their new house. Designers created a 38,000 square-foot mansion with extravagant architectural and water features,

over-the-top gadgets and a floor that slides like a moving puzzle. The original design of the Parr home did make the cut; at the end of "Incredibles 2," a key character comes out of it.

SWEET READ

Many members of the art team traveled to Palm Springs to find architectural inspiration for the buildings in "Incredibles 2." They were treated to tours of midcentury modern homes and were pleasantly surprised to see copies of the book, "The Art of The Incredibles," in many of the homes.

DOUBLE SCORE

Oscar winner Michael Giacchino created the scores for both "Incredibles" movies. The first movie allowed him to compose his first-ever score for a feature film.

Family guide to new movie releases

By KATIE WALSH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

'JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM'

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of science-fiction violence and peril.

What it's about: Post-"Jurassic World" fallout, Claire and Owen try to figure out a way to save dinosaurs from extinction and encounter a shady dino black market along the way.

The kid attractor factor: The dino spectacle and action-adventure genre will draw older kids and teens.

Good lessons/bad lessons: If something is alive, it deserves to be free.

Violence: Lots of action violence, escaping volcanos and carnivorous predators, including the murderous Indoraptor. Some blood and gore, shooting, stabbing, etc.

Language: None.

Sexuality: A kiss.

Drugs: None.

Parents advisory: Too

scary for little kids, but OK for older kids and teens.

'BOUNDARIES'

Rated R for drug material, language, some sexual references and nude sketches.

What it's about: A mother and son take a road trip with her estranged father.

The kid attractor factor: Not much — this is an indie dramedy skewing toward an older audience.

Good lessons/bad lessons: Open your heart to your loved ones, and see what happens.

Violence: None.

Language: Some swearing and strong language.

Sexuality: Graphic nude sketches done by the teenage son. An implied sex scene.

Drugs: Massive marijuana deals conducted out of the trunk of the car, as well as smoking on screen.

Parents advisory: Kids will likely not be interested in this adult dramedy, but it's OK for

teens and older, mature kids.

'INCREDIBLES 2'

Rated PG for action sequences and some brief mild language.

What it's about: The sequel to 2004's mega-hit animated film about a superhero family who fights crime together. This time, they're working to make superheroes legal again.

The kid attractor factor: The animation, eye-popping spectacle and humor will draw kids and parents alike.

Good lessons/bad lessons: Always stick together as a family, admit when you need help, and work as a team.

Violence: Some perilous action sequences but nothing too scary or extreme.

Language: Nothing to be concerned about.

Sexuality: None.

Drugs: None

Parents advisory: This is the kind of Pixar film that's fun for parents and kids



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Chris Pratt in a scene from, "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom."

UNIVERSAL VIA AP

alike. Fun for kids of all ages, but may be a bit too action-packed for the youngest children.

'SUPERFLY'

Rated R for violence and language throughout, strong sexuality, nudity, and drug content.

What it's about: A remake of the 1972 drug dealer blaxploitation film, this time set in present-day Atlanta.

The kid attractor factor: Teens might be attracted to the genre and slick style.

Good lessons/bad lessons: Get out while you're ahead and don't be greedy.

Violence: Some extreme, disturbing and bloody gun violence, as well as martial arts fighting.

Language: Strong language throughout.

Sexuality: Many scenes are set in strip clubs — there is graphic nudity and the objectification of women, as well as an extremely graphic sex scene.

Drugs: Drugs, including cocaine and marijuana are used and sold throughout.

Parents advisory: Too vio-

lent and too graphic for kids — this is for teens only.

'HEREDITARY'

Rated R for horror violence, disturbing images, language, drug use and brief graphic nudity.

What it's about: A family comes unglued as they deal with the legacies and histories left behind by the death of a mother.

The kid attractor factor: Kids won't be attracted to this prestige horror film at all, but teens may be attracted to the genre.

Good lessons/bad lessons: Be careful what you uncover in your past, though you may have no control over it.

Violence: Some extreme and bloody horror violence, killings, self-harm, etc.

Language: Swearing throughout.

Sexuality: Some graphic male and female full frontal nudity (no sex scenes).

Drugs: None.

Parents advisory: Far too scary and violent for younger audiences—older teens only.

'AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR'

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action throughout, language and some crude references.

What it's about: The Avengers assemble their far-flung team to battle Thanos, who is threatening to wipe out half of the universe.

The kid attractor factor: The massive spectacle and beloved characters will be a huge draw for kids.

Good lessons/bad lessons: You never know what you might lose; extreme methods of handling the problems of the universe aren't the answer. Better to save a life than take a life.

Violence: A lot of sci-fi/adventure action and violence, fighting, shooting, stabbing, explosions, etc., but not much gore. There are several on-screen deaths.

Language: A few instances of swearing or rude gestures.

Sexuality: A kiss or two.

Drugs: None.

Parents advisory: Appropriate for older kids and teens but too violent for younger kids.



This image released by Disney Pixar shows a scene from "Incredibles 2."

DISNEY/PIXAR VIA AP

A different kind of prom

By JOY RESMOVITS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

DeMarlo slipped out of his standard-issue gray sweats and sneakers and left them on the bathroom floor. He stepped out into the library of his juvenile detention center in the gray suit and dress shoes he had chosen to wear to the center's prom.

"I feel like a boss. This could be my office," said the muscular 17-year-old with his mother's name tattooed on his right forearm.

Pending a court hearing, DeMarlo was two days away from release from the Dorothy Kirby Center in Commerce, one of the 19 juvenile detention centers that the Los Angeles County Department of Probation refers to as camps. He had originally planned to stay for the prom the next day, but said he was expecting the birth of his first child, had just learned that his uncle had been killed and wanted to go home as soon as possible.

So as he got a haircut and chose his prom suit, DeMarlo had hatched a plan: He would wear the suit instead to court, to try to impress his tough judge.

As he told a Kirby officer, "I'm not taking this suit off."

With a population of roughly 50 teenagers housed in "cottages" around a green



DeMarlo, 17, tries on his suit two days before prom. CLAIRE HANNAH COLLINS/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS



Aurora, 16, tries on prom dresses with help from probation officer Janet Ramos. CLAIRE HANNAH COLLINS/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

field, Kirby resembles a small boarding school. Because its residents are minors and their cases are not in the public record, their last names and criminal histories have been withheld.

Between 2012 and 2017, the county has reduced the number of minors in detention camps by about 60 percent. Officials say they are training staff to focus on rehabilitation over punishment. A recent county-commissioned report suggested that such training is uneven. But with a program designed for teens struggling with addiction, emotional disorders and mental illness, Kirby is known for its therapeutic approach.

Giving teenagers a prom, an experience they might otherwise miss, is an important part of that, said Kirby's director, Michael Varela. Students have to be on their best behavior to attend.

"If you want young people to act in a certain way or conduct themselves appropriately, you have to ... try to have it so that it's as close as you can have it with what's going on in a comprehensive high school," Varela said. "You try to reward conduct."

In some ways, the big event on June 14 looked like prom anywhere, but fancier than most. The theme was "A Night in Paris," and deputy probation officer Janet Ramos got staff to magic the

drab auditorium into a Parisian nightclub. Wallpaper made half the walls look like exposed brick. Yellow awnings sported French names such as "Cafe Du Monde" and "Patisserie."

Teens posed for photos and sketches by a caricature artist, ate baguettes, croissants and macarons, and danced to the beats of a DJ. There was a passport taller than some of them, and an Eiffel Tower that was taller still.

In a silver sequined dress,



Aurora, 16, salsa dances with probation officer Angelica Arellano. CLAIRE HANNAH COLLINS/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS



Irma, 18, placed the stickers reading "Freedom" on the window of her door. CLAIRE HANNAH COLLINS/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS



Breahna, 16, and Makieyah, 14, were some of the first to hit the dance floor at the beginning of the event. CLAIRE HANNAH COLLINS/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

with a tattoo on her neck, Breahna was voted prom queen. Kane, a jovial young man with special needs, got the king's crown.

But the illusion flickered. Contraband hairpins were allowed but had to be returned at the end of the evening. Uniformed guards surrounded the dance area.

At the front of the room, teens sat at round tables and danced. In the back, at rectangular tables, adults gathered to witness an uplifting moment in a system that has been criticized for its abuses.

The teens had to listen to pep talks. A deputy probation officer told a few girls to leave their drama in their rooms. "There'll be judges, lawyers, bureau chiefs," she said. "Don't embarrass yourselves."

Kirby's minors have done things and faced hardships that could derail most adults. Some were traded by sex traffickers. Some live with mental illness. Others, like DeMarlo, have borne relatives' violent deaths.

In the outside world, kids their age don caps and gowns, celebrate sweet 16s and quinceaneras. At camp, teens wear thick socks and gray sweats; sit in class for a few hours a day and have to wait to be told when they can shower, leave their dormitories, wake up and sleep.

Aurora has black hair past her waist and a self-described aversion to rules. When she arrived at Kirby, she didn't want to go to the detention center's prom.

Teens disconnect to reconnect

By GAIL ROSENBLUM
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Four teenage girls. Two tents. One hundred and thirty hours of nonstop togetherness. No cellphones. Lots of bugs. And one relentless thunderstorm. No reality show here. Just the formula for a sensational week.

"It was really perfect," said Julia Ruelle of her recent weeklong adventure to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCA) with three childhood friends.

"By disconnecting and unplugging, we kind of lost the drama," said Julia, 16, of Minnetonka, Minn. "It was amazing having them all with me. I had to be responsible for so many things, but it was really cool."

Earlier this year, Julia won an essay contest sponsored by the Ely Outfitting Co. Its founder, Jason Zabokrtsky, created the contest to get kids away from technology by awarding a five-day, fully outfitted canoe and camp-

ing adventure with up to three friends. (elyoutfitting-company.com)

No parents or guides allowed.

Julia, who in April completed treatment for a rare but highly curable brain tumor, wrote that she longed to be back in her cherished BWCA with its "hypnotic serenity." While she'd been to the area many times with her family, sharing the experience with friends would be icing on the cake.

She struggled to narrow down "quite a big list" to the final three. "A lot of it was just parents," she said. "Getting their approval was kind of a tall order."

Having a satellite phone and promising to check in twice during the week sealed the deal for the parental units of Anna Wander, 16, Madeline Wilson, 16, and Julianna Torelli, 15. Julia's mom, Linda, stayed in Ely throughout the week.

"The first thing that hit me when I saw Julia and her friends were the big

smiles," Linda said, recalling their return. "They had such a good time."

The four Minnetonka High School juniors arrived in Ely on June 10 for orientation. Zabokrtsky guided them to an out-and-back route "with flexibility," Julia said, "and he pointed out a lot of good campsites along the way."

They set out the next day at 7 a.m., quickly developing a routine. "We would wake up early ... oh, man ... and, every day, we were done paddling by noon," Julia said. "We ate lunch at the campsites _ we were pretty hungry by that time _ then it was hammocks, read, write, make friendship bracelets, talk, nap."

"I have known them most of my life," Julia said of her three friends, "but I did definitely learn a lot. We always were talking before bed, about specific things and thoughts in general. There are intricacies in my friends' lives that I hadn't quite realized."

She even produced a delightful three-minute

video that she posted to YouTube: <https://youtu.be/svdZHboAnyo>

Like Julia, the three friends all had some experience in the great outdoors.

Anna had been to the Boundary Waters with her family and backpacked on the Superior Hiking Trail. "I love how you are kind of separated from everything in your life, especially technology," Anna said. Without her phone, she said, "I'm a lot less worried about things. When I have it, I feel like I need to be constantly checking it to make sure things are OK."

Anna's favorite aspect was nestling into a hammock after their campsite was set up "and looking at the lake." She did the math to realize they'd be together for 130 hours, "without a break. We got along pretty well," she said.

"... But we joked that any longer," Madeline added, "and we might have had a couple squabbles."

Madeline joined Anna for most of the dish cleanup _ without complaining, Julia noted. Madeline, too, had been to the Boundary Wa-

ters a few years back, "but I remember just going along for the ride the first time," she said. "This time, I had to paddle right, set up camp."

Not a fan of bugs, Madeline wore a mesh suit, which had the girls laughing quite a bit. "I knew I'd adapt, but it was not fun."

Julianna, who spent time in the Boundary Waters with YMCA Camp Menogyn, was the essential designated cook. Breakfast was blueberry pancakes, granola, oatmeal; lunches were sandwiches with pita bread. They had a propane stove but usually built a campfire for evening meals.

"A lot of the meals required boiling water, so Julia made the fire and I made the dinner," Julianna said. "My steak Stroganoff was pretty good."

No one was ever hungry, or homesick, Julia said. But they were admittedly on edge the final night as they waited out a sensational thunderstorm. They left soaking sleeping bags in one tent, and squeezed into the other for the night.

"Every thunderstorm in

the Boundary Waters feels huge," Julia said. "It's really humbling."

On the car ride home, they were all on their phones catching up with friends, which was somewhat bittersweet.

"It was a little overwhelming turning my phone on," said Anna, who works as a summer camp counselor at her church. Her parents "were very happy to have me home, but also very impressed at how we were able to make everything work in the Boundary Waters," she said. "You just have to be prepared to rough it a little bit, carry things and figure out things for yourself."

Madeline, who returns to nanny and mentor kids, is relieved to know "there's an escape from society and, still, those untouched places in nature."

Julianna was back to competitive swimming three hours daily for her club team. She returns to the Boundary Waters with Menogyn in a few weeks, but noted with some relief that they'll have a guide.

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CODED RIDDLE

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

I P X E P F M F Q I B O U T U B M L U P

F B D I P U I F S M P O H E J T U B O D F ?

P O U I F F M F Q I P O F .

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Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

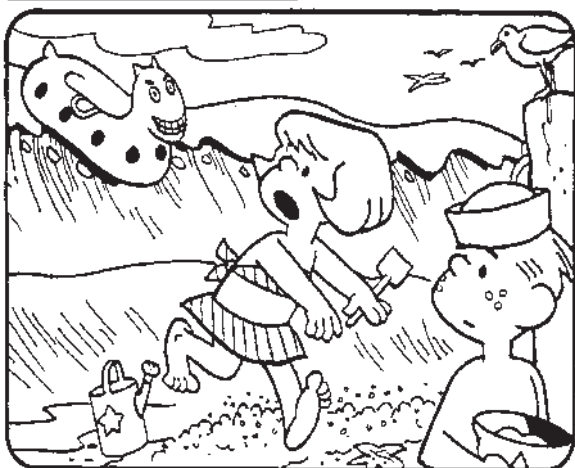
Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Sports team list | R _ _ _ _ _ | Wanted sign | P _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Released | _ _ E _ _ _ | Cooked in oil | _ _ I _ _ _ |
| 3. Clothes stiffener | _ T _ _ _ _ | Browse the internet | _ E _ _ _ _ |
| 4. Avocado color | _ _ _ _ N | From Athens | _ _ _ _ K |
| 5. Put the lid on | _ _ V _ _ _ | Tremble | _ _ W _ _ _ |
| 6. Silent | _ _ _ E _ _ | Grandma's blanket | _ _ _ L _ _ |
| 7. Monkey with | _ A _ _ _ _ | Kind of tantrum | _ E _ _ _ _ |
| 8. Restaurant lists | _ E _ _ _ _ | Subtract | _ I _ _ _ _ |
| 9. Confess | _ _ P _ _ _ | Feel ill-will toward | _ _ S _ _ _ |
| 10. Like Zorro | _ _ _ K _ _ | Like some potatoes | _ _ _ H _ _ |

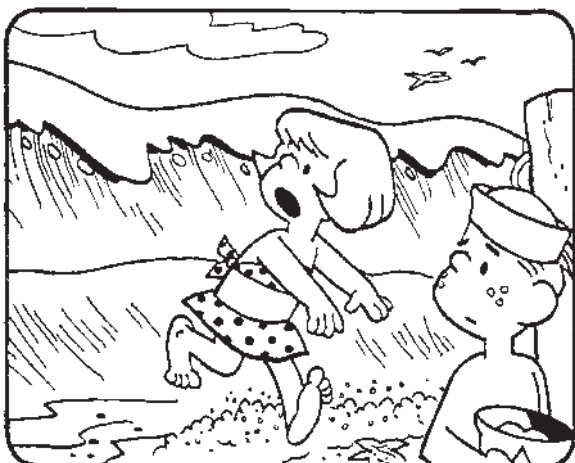
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Horse is missing. 2. Watering can is missing. 3. Bathing suit is different. 4. Shovel is missing. 5. Bird is missing. 6. Hat is moved.

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RIDDLE CARD

- What has more feet in winter than in summer?
- What fastidious animal reminds you of a flower?
- Which is the strongest day of the week?
- On which side of a pitcher is the handle?
- How can you make a coat last?



Answers: 1. A skating pond. 2. A dandy lion (dandelion). 3. Sunday, because all the rest are weak (week) days. 4. On the outside. 5. Make the trousers and vest first.

FIND THE "MAGIC" NUMBER! What number can you add to each figure in our math expression to make the statement correct?

Answer: Place a "2" above and to the right of each figure. This will "square" each figure, giving the correct expression: $9 + 16 = 25$

HERE'S A "HONEY" OF A PUZZLE! At right is a word square. You are challenged to find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below. All words used must read the same both across and down.

- Looking very pale.
- To look with favor upon.
- Hives (given).
- To single out.
- What hives are.

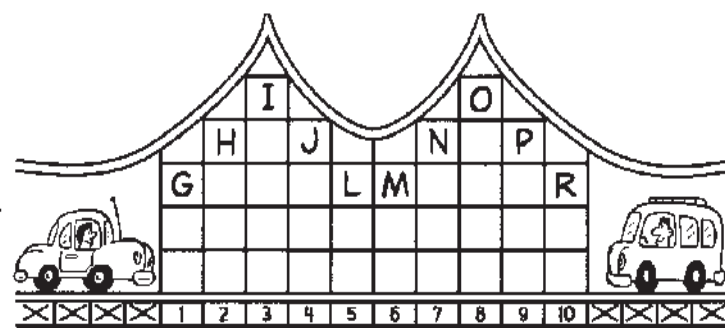


Answers: 1. Ashen. 2. Smile. 3. Hives. 4. Elect. 5. Nests.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A WORD BRIDGE!



The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus plenty of hints.

- A long, narrow fish.
- A metal fastener.
- Found on computer screens.
- Jazz musicians' talk.
- Record of ship's progress.
- A boy's best friend.
- A colorful sign.
- Often referred to as golden.
- Eastern pocket bread.
- Slang for wonderful

Answers: 1. Gar. 2. Hasp. 3. Icons. 4. Jive. 5. Log. 6. Mom. 7. Neon. 8. Oldie. 9. Pita. 10. Rad.

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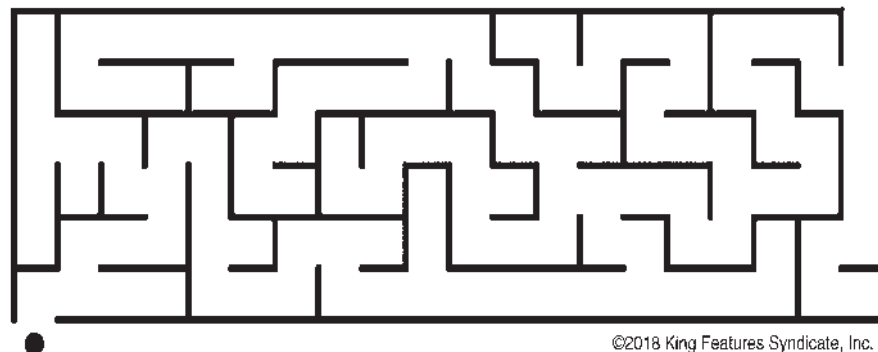
Kids' Maze Solution

- Roster, Poster
- Freed, Fried
- Starch, Search
- Green, Greek
- Cover, Cover
- Quiet, Quilt
- Tamper, Temper
- Minus, Minus
- Repent, Resent
- Masked, Mashed

Even Exchange answers

Puzzles4Kids

Kids' Maze



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Business

TRUMP'S ECONOMIC GAMBLE:

Solid job gains vs. risky trade war

WASHINGTON (AP)—From the safety of a resilient U.S. economy, President Donald Trump lit the fuse Friday on a high-risk trade war with China.

History suggests that a cycle of tariffs and retaliations can eventually choke economic growth. But for now, employers, investors and U.S. consumers are weighing the perils of a prolonged rift between the world's two largest economies against a far more positive backdrop: America's healthiest job market in years.

Evidently confident despite the risks ahead, U.S. employers have added jobs this year at a robust monthly average of 214,500. Many businesses say they've reached the point where they can't even find enough people to fill jobs. Unemployment is at a low 4 percent.

All that hiring is occurring in an economic expansion that

is entering its 10th year—the second-longest streak on record. The U.S. financial markets, while wary of the trade fights Trump has pursued, have swung this year between modest gains and losses but have avoided any sustained panic.

"The robustness of the economy—and it's stronger than it has been in decades—inoculates Trump's trade policy moves from closer scrutiny," said Daniel Ikenson, director for trade policy studies at the libertarian Cato Institute.

Most employers see the economy as having achieved a comfortable cruising speed and have kept hiring. In surveys of business sentiment, they have expressed concerns about the tariffs, but their wariness has yet to disrupt their business plans.

The United States added 213,000 jobs in June, and

an influx of new jobseekers, seemingly optimistic about their prospects but not finding work right away, lifted the unemployment rate from 3.8 percent to 4 percent, the government reported Friday.

Helping propel growth, business and consumers have received a \$136 billion stimulus this year from tax cuts. Quarterly economic growth is on track to be the strongest since 2014. Housing starts are up 11 percent so far this year.

From this position of strength, President Donald Trump is gambling that he can deploy tariffs to his advantage even though they will inflict some pain on businesses and consumers that backed him in 2016. The Trump team's calculation appears to be that foreign countries have no choice but to trade with the world's largest economy and will ultimately have to yield.

Alleged affair in the office feeds gossip mill

Q: As a long-term employee in a family-owned business, I'm concerned about two people who may be having an affair. Although I have no definite proof, I've been told by a reliable source that the president of our company is in a sexual relationship with "Jessica", our new sales director.

Ever since Jessica arrived, the sales department has had constant promotions, demotions, and terminations. Employees are confused because everything seems to be changing from the way it was previously done. Also, this company has never had a woman manager before.

Now people are upset because Jessica supposedly terminated an employee for raising questions about her relationship with the president. All this gossip is creating a lot of turmoil, so I would like to help calm things down. What's the best way to do this?

A: During high-change periods, the grapevine always runs rampant. If Jessica and her boss are immersed in planning the sales reorganization, their frequent meetings could have given rise to these rumors, especially since female managers are apparently an anomaly.

But regardless of whether an affair is actually in progress, incessant gossip creates an unhealthy distraction, so your desire to help is admirable.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



ble. If your lengthy tenure has created a trusting relationship with the president, one option is to have a non-accusatory "advisory" talk without prying into his personal life.

For example: "Although this is an uncomfortable subject, I thought I should tell you about some gossip that has employees upset. People have been speculating about your relationship with Jessica, so the rumor is that Bob got fired for saying you were having an affair. I'm not asking you about this, but I wanted you to know what's being said."

The president can then decide how to act on this information. But if your relationship with him is not that close, perhaps a family member or human resources manager would be willing to deliver the news. Of course, you can always help by refusing to participate in this unfounded speculation and strongly advising others to do the same.

Q: My team will soon begin reporting to a manager in the United States, and I hope to make a good impression on him. Previously, we have always had a local

boss. Several colleagues have decided to leave, but I like this company and plan to stay. I'm an average performer who just wants to have a secure job. What should I do?

A: Start by learning as much as possible about your new boss' background and your company's U.S. operations. Since you are accustomed to local supervision, you should also realize that different countries frequently have different leadership practices. A good resource for understanding these variations is "The Culture Map" by Erin Meyer.

Regardless of cultural differences, discussing expectations with a new boss is always wise, because every manager has individual preferences, habits, and quirks. Take time to clarify such things as the kind of information he wants and how he prefers to communicate.

Finally, as an "average" employee, you must try to improve your performance level as much as possible. To increase job security, that's the most important thing you can do.

Nation

Trump says he 'can't go wrong' with his top court contenders

MORRISTOWN, N.J.

(AP)—President Donald Trump is going down to the wire as he makes his choice on a replacement for retiring Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, but he says with his final four options "you can't go wrong."

Trump spoke to reporters Sunday afternoon as he concluded a weekend in New Jersey spent deliberating his decision at his private golf club amid furious lobbying and frenzied speculation. Relishing the suspense, Trump insisted he still hadn't locked down his decision, which he wants to keep under wraps until a 9 p.m. Monday announcement from the White House.

"I'm very close to making a final decision. And I believe this person will do a great job," Trump said. Asked by reporters how many people were being considered, the president said: "Let's say it's the four people ... they're excellent, every one."

While Trump didn't name the four, top contenders for the role have included federal appeals judges Brett Kavanaugh, Raymond Kethledge, Amy Coney Barrett and Thomas Hardiman. The White House has been preparing information materials on all four, who were part of

Trump's Supreme Court contenders

As President Donald Trump closes in on his pick for the next Supreme Court nominee on Monday July 8th, sources have said that his list has focused in on 3 contenders.



Amy Coney Barret, 46
Federal appellate judge (7th Circuit Court of Appeals)

- Former Notre Dame law professor
- Trump appointee to the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago



Brett Kavanaugh, 53
Federal appellate judge (D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals)

- Worked in the White House counsel's office for George W. Bush
- Lead role in drafting Starr report to impeach former President Bill Clinton, in 1998



Raymond Kethledge, 51
Federal appellate judge (6th Circuit Court of Appeals)

- Co-authored book "Lead Yourself First: Inspiring Leadership Through Solitude"
- Attended the University of Michigan Law School, graduating magna cum laude

Source: AP, LA Times
Graphic: Tribune News Service

a longer list of 25 names vetted by conservative groups.

Trump tweeted later Sunday that he was looking forward to the announcement and said an "exceptional person will be chosen!" He is hoping to replicate his successful announcement of Justice Neil Gorsuch last year.

The president has spent the days leading up to the decision mulling the pros and cons of the various options with aides and allies. He expressed renewed interest in Hardiman — the runner-up when Trump nominated Gorsuch, said

two people with knowledge of his thinking who were not authorized to speak publicly. But the situation appeared to remain fluid.

Hardiman has a personal connection to the president, having served with Trump's sister on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia. He also has a compelling personal story: He went to the University of Notre Dame as the first person in his family to go to college. He financed his law degree at the Georgetown University Law Center by driving a taxi.

ACLU: Many children unlikely to be reunited by deadline

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The American Civil Liberties Union said it appears the Trump administration will miss a court-ordered deadline to reunite young children who were separated at the border with their parents in more than half of the cases.

The ACLU said late Sunday the administration provided it with a list of 102 children under 5 years old and that "appears likely that less than half will be reunited" by Tuesday's deadline.

The Justice Department asked U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw for more time last week but the judge on Friday did not grant a blanket extension, saying only that he would consider certain exceptions. He told the two sides to discuss possible exceptions over the weekend and report to him Monday.

Administration officials didn't immediately respond

to requests for comment on the ACLU's assessment.

Children were increasingly separated from their parents after Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced in May that a zero-tolerance policy on illegally entering the country was in full effect. While parents were criminally prosecuted, children were placed in custody of the Health and Human Services Department.

Trump reversed course on June 20 amid an international outcry and said families should remain together.

On June 26, Sabraw set deadlines of Tuesday to reunite children under 5 with their families and July 26 for older children. Sabraw, who was appointed by President George W. Bush, wrote that the "situation has reached a crisis level" and that the "chaotic circumstances" were of the government's

own making.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said Thursday there were "under 3,000" children separated from their parents. Previously, he said 2,047.

"It's extremely disappointing that the Trump administration looks like it will fail to reunite even half the children under 5 with their parent," said ACLU attorney Lee Gelernt. "These kids have already suffered so much because of this policy, and every extra day apart just adds to that pain."

The ACLU sued in March on behalf of a Congolese woman who was separated from her daughter for five months after seeking asylum at a San Diego border crossing and a Brazilian asylum-seeker who was separated from her son after an arrest for illegal entry in August near the Texas-New Mexico border.

Asia

Rescuers search for dozens missing after Japan floods

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AP)—Rescuers were hard at work searching for dozens still missing in southwestern Japan on Monday after heavy rains that left residents returning to their homes speechless and unsure where to start the recovery and cleanup due to the extent of damage from flooding and mudslides.

At least 100 people died or are presumed dead, with more than 60 still unaccounted for, most of them in the hardest-hit Hiroshima area.

Seiji Toda was shocked and helpless when he saw his restaurant, which he opened nearly 40 years ago, filled with mud heaped about 1 meter (yards) from the floor. Tables, covered with clean white tablecloths before he left, were all mud-covered, chairs thrown to the floor.

"I had never seen anything like this," he said on TBS television, standing outside his restaurant in Hiroshima city while wearing a helmet. He says it would be impossible to clean up the mess by hand.

Right next to his restaurant were heaps of broken trees and other debris. Several cars were still half buried in the mud.

The assessment of casualties has been difficult because of the widespread area affected by the rainfall, flooding and landslides since late last week.

4 rescued from Thai cave in risky operation; 9 remain inside

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP)—Expert divers Sunday rescued four of 12 boys from a flooded cave in northern Thailand where they were trapped with their soccer coach for more than two weeks, as a dangerous and complicated operation unfolded amid heavy rain and the threat of rising water underground.

Eight boys and the coach remained inside the Tham Luang Nang Non cave as authorities paused the international effort to replenish air tanks along the treacherous exit route.

Extracting everyone could take up to four days, but the initial success raised hopes that could be done.

"The operation went much better than expected," said Chiang Rai acting Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn, who is overseeing the mission.

He told reporters the four rescued boys were taken to the hospital in the town of Chiang Rai, the provincial capital, for evaluation, and the next phase of the operation will resume



This photo shows an submerged housing area in Kurashiki, Okayama prefecture, western Japan Monday, July 9, 2018.

Authorities warned that landslides could strike even after rain subsides as the calamity shaped up to be potentially the worst in decades.

Some homes were smashed. Others were tilting precariously. Rivers overflowed, turning towns into lakes, leaving dozens of people stranded on rooftops. Military paddle boats and helicopters have brought people to the ground.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Monday that 87 people were confirmed dead and 13 others were without vital signs when they were found.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the government has expended the search and rescue effort, dispatching 73,000 troops and emergency workers. "The rescue teams are doing their utmost."

after about 10-20 hours.

The names of the rescued boys were not released.

His announcement, at a news conference more than an hour after helicopters and ambulances were seen rushing from the cave area, drew cheers and applause.

Narongsak had dubbed Sunday to be "D-day" as the complicated effort was launched in the morning.

He said 13 foreign divers and five Thai navy SEALs were taking part in the key leg of the rescue: taking the boys from where they have been sheltering and through dark, tight and twisting passageways filled with muddy water and strong currents.

Two divers were to accompany each of the boys, all of whom have been learning to dive only since July 2, when the first searchers found them.

Cave rescue experts consider an underwater escape to be a last resort, especially with people untrained in diving.

In large parts of Hiroshima, water streamed through a residential area, strewn with fallen telephone poles, uprooted trees and mud over the weekend.

Toda, the restaurant owner, said he took precautions because of his fresh memory of flooding four years ago that killed more than 70 in Hiroshima. Others were caught off guard.

"It gives me a chill thinking what could have happened," said Eiko Yamane on Sunday as she recalled realizing how suddenly water was seeping the tires of the car she was driving. She was able to escape.

The Japan Meteorological Agency said three hours of rainfall in one area in Kochi prefecture reached an accumulated 26.3 centimeters (10.4 inches), the highest since such records started in 1976.

The death Friday of a former Thai navy SEAL, Saman Gunan, underscored the risks. The diver, the first fatality of the rescue effort, was working in a volunteer capacity and died on a mission to place oxygen canisters along the route.

But Narongsak said earlier that recent mild weather and falling water levels had created optimal conditions for an underwater evacuation. Those conditions won't last if the rain resumes, he said.

After the four boys were removed from the cave, heavy rain started falling.

The potential for rising water and the dwindling oxygen levels added to the urgency of getting the team out. Efforts to pump water out of the cave have been set back by heavy downpours.

Narongsak said Saturday that experts told him new rain could shrink the unflooded space where the boys are sheltering to just 10 square meters (108 square feet).

World

IN BLOW TO MAY

UK's top Brexit official quits

LONDON (AP)—Britain's most senior official in charge of negotiating the country's exit from the European Union resigned Sunday, accusing Prime Minister Theresa May of undermining Brexit with her plan to keep close trade ties with the bloc.

Brexit Secretary David Davis quit just two days after May announced she had finally united her quarrelsome government behind a plan for a divorce deal with the EU.

In a blow to the beleaguered prime minister, Davis told May in a letter that the government's proposals for close trade and customs ties "will leave us in at best a weak negotiating position, and possibly an inescapable one."

Davis's late-night resignation undermined May's already fragile government, which has lost several ministers in the past year over sexual misconduct allegations and other scandals. Davis was a strong pro-Brexit voice in a Cabinet divided between supporters of a clean break with the bloc and those who want to keep close ties with Britain's biggest trading partner.

May's office said a replacement for Davis would be announced Monday.

His departure could em-

bolden Brexit-supporting Conservative lawmakers—who have long considered May too prone to compromise with the EU—to challenge her leadership.

The staunchly pro-Brexit Conservative lawmaker Andrea Jenkyns tweeted: "Fantastic news. Well done David Davis for having the principal and guts to resign."

Jenkyns said Steve Baker, a junior minister in the Brexit department, had also quit. There was no immediate comment from Baker.

Less than nine months remain until Britain leaves the bloc on March 29, 2019, and the EU has warned Britain repeatedly that time is running out to seal a divorce deal.

On Friday, Davis and the rest of May's fractious Cabinet finally agreed on a plan for future trade ties with the EU.

May is due to brief lawmakers Monday on the plan hammered out during a 12-hour meeting at Chequers, the prime minister's country retreat. It seeks to keep the U.K. and the EU in a free-trade zone for goods, and commits Britain to maintaining the same rules as the bloc for goods and agricultural products.

Some Brexit-supporting lawmakers are angry at the proposals, saying they will keep Britain tethered to the bloc and unable to change its rules to strike new trade deals around the world.

In his resignation letter, Davis said the "common rule book" policy hands control of large swathes of our economy to the EU and is certainly not returning control of our laws in any real sense."

He said he was worried the government's negotiating approach would "lead to further demands for concessions" from Brussels.

"It seems to me that the national interest requires a secretary of state in my department that is an enthusiastic believer in your approach, and not merely a reluctant conscript," he wrote.

In a letter to Davis, May disagreed with his characterization of her plans, saying the deal she seeks "will undoubtedly mean the returning of powers from Brussels to the United Kingdom."

Conservative lawmaker Jacob Rees-Mogg, a leader of the party's "hard Brexit" faction, compared May's plan to an egg so softly boiled that it "isn't boiled at all."

WORLD BRIEFS

Turkey: Train derailment kills at least 10, injures 73

ISTANBUL (AP)—At least 10 people were killed and more than 70 injured Sunday when a passenger train derailed in northwestern Turkey, Turkish authorities said. Five of the train's six cars derailed in a village in Tekirdag province after "the ground between the culvert and the rail collapsed" due to heavy rains, the Ministry of Transport said. Health Ministry Undersecretary Eyup Gumus put the number of fatalities at 10 and the number of people injured at 73 based on initial reports from the scene, according to Turkey's official Anadolu news agency. The train was heading to Istanbul from Edirne, on the border with Greece, with 362 passengers and six crewmembers on board, the transportation ministry said. The Turkish prime ministry issued a temporary media ban Sunday night on reporting the aftermath of the accident, citing national security and public order.

Syrian girl born without legs gets new prosthetics in Turkey

ISTANBUL (AP)—The 8-year-old Syrian girl, quietly crying in an Istanbul clinic, was overwhelmed by the new set of prosthetic legs she had just received and taken aback by the cameras pointed at her by journalists attending the fitting. Maya Meri has been in the spotlight since images of her plight hit social media last month. She was filmed in a camp for the displaced in Syria's northwestern Idlib province walking around on contraptions her

father made from tuna cans, plastic tubes and fabric. "I thought of doing something that would protect her while on the ground from stones and other things, so I made these limbs for her," said her father, Mohammed. Maya was born without legs because of a condition called congenital amputation. Her story moved one Turkish prosthetics specialist to reach out to Turkey's largest humanitarian organization, which evacuated her from Syria.

Iranian teen detained over Instagram dance videos

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran has detained a teenage girl who posted dance videos on Instagram and attracted tens of thousands of followers. State TV broadcast a video on Friday in which Maedeh Hojabri, 18-year-old gymnast, acknowledged breaking moral norms while insisting that was not her intention, and that she was only trying to gain more followers. It was unclear whether her statement was made under duress. Shabooneh, a local news website, said Hojabri and three other individuals were detained on similar charges in recent weeks before being released on bail. She had posted around 300 videos on her account, many of which showed her dancing in both Iranian and Western styles. She also appeared in videos without wearing the obligatory Islamic headscarf. Her performances had thousands of followers on various accounts with her name on them, ranging from 12,000 to 66,000 followers. None of the accounts were verified.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW: Nissan Titan XD is a diesel beast of a truck

By **ROBERT DUFFER**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The 2018 Nissan Titan XD is beyond huge, beyond titanic. It's like Andre the Giant ring-side, like the Yeti in a mountain snow, like Fortnite to a tween.

The XD likely stands for eXtra Duty since Nissan promotes it as heavy-duty capable but light-duty driveable, like a Ford F-150, Chevrolet Silvera-

do or Ram 1500. Titan XD might be sized like the extended cab offerings of light duty trucks, but it behaves like something much more.

Crank the V-8 diesel engine, and it could be mistaken for a semitruck. Drive it and empathize with long-haul truckers confronted with all the nuisance drivers buzzing about like gnats at dusk. Park it in an underground garage, and the nose

sticks out like hair on a wart.

The Cummins 5-liter turbocharged V-8 engine churns out 555 pound-feet of torque, good enough to tow 12,640 pounds, ideal for lugging around your pet elephant. An equally heavy-duty six-speed Aisin automatic transmission developed exclusively for the Titan XD delivers power in a 4x4 system for off-road conquering.

Switching the selector to 2WD makes the Titan XD more manageable on roads, but there is no place for economy when it comes to fuel in this beast. Since it's classified as heavy duty, there are no Environmental Protection Agency estimates for miles per gallon. We averaged 8.2 mpg around town and about 13 mpg on the highway, in 2WD.

It drives heavy, it shifts heavy, it handles heavy because that's what it was made to do. Like light duty trucks, which used to be called half-

ton trucks until they exceeded a payload over 1,000 pounds, the XD is as long and wide as an F-150 SuperCrew Cab or any of the other extended cab offerings that seat five, maybe six. Titan XD weighs at least 1,500 pounds more than the light duty competition but makes less horsepower. The XD diesel is all about the torque; the next best light-duty Ram 1500 generates 410 pound-feet, for context.

2019 Ram 1500 is the pickup truck for winning arguments

The interior controls marry the old with the new. There is a 7-inch touch screen that looks tiny when flanked by big climate knobs and volume and tuning knobs. Most convenience functions can be handled with the redundant steering wheel controls. The tester came with leather and ventilated front seats with eight-way power driver seat and four-way passenger seat

NUTS & BOLTS

2018 Nissan Titan XD diesel crew cab at a glance

- Vehicle type: Heavier-duty pickup truck
- Base price: \$53,130
- As tested: \$59,665 (excluding \$1,295 destination)

- Mpg: 8 city, 17 highway (estimated)
- Engine: 5-liter turbo V-8 diesel
- Transmission: 6-speed automatic in 4x4
- Parting shot: Try the Ram 1500.

as part of the Pro-4X convenience package (\$3,545). I don't know if it's worth it, but power folding side mirrors should be standard on a truck this massive. Throw in some running boards, too.

The rear seat area is spacious, with fold-up seats with a fold-flat floor to stack stuff over the seat housing. The bed has storage areas over the wheel wells, much smaller and more basic than a Ram box. A retractable step gives a necessary boost into the high-riding bed.

Titan XD is a work truck

made for towing, hauling, grunting and guzzling. The light duty trucks can do double duty as everyday drivers without being too taxing. Not the case with the Titan XD. Changing lanes is a trial, parking is a pain, but the PRO-4X trim level we tested very well could be the basis for the next war rig in the Mad Max franchise.

Robert Duffer is the editor of the Chicago's Tribune's auto section. Readers may contact him at Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago IL 60611 or rduffer@chicagotribune.com.



2018 Nissan Titan XD Crew Cab in Pro-4X trim is powered by a 5-liter turbocharged V-8 diesel engine and six-speed automatic Aisin transmission that generates 310-horsepower and 555 pound-feet of torque. It tows 12,640 pounds. Pictured in Arlington Heights, Ill., June 14, 2018.



2018 Nissan Titan XD Crew Cab in Pro-4X trim is powered by a 5-liter turbocharged V-8 diesel engine and six-speed automatic Aisin transmission that generates 310-horsepower and 555 pound-feet of torque. It tows 12,640 pounds. Pictured in Arlington Heights, Ill., June 14, 2018.

Under the Hood: Seek second opinion on 'front end overhaul'

Q: I just bought new tires for my truck. The tire place recommended an alignment because the front tires were wearing more on the inside of the tread. They then called and said they can't align it because I need a "front end overhaul" to the tune of around \$900! The truck has 141,000 miles and seems to drive, stop and turn great. I asked what is the worst thing that could happen if I didn't fix it, and they said my new tires will wear out too soon and I could lose control if I hit the wrong kind of bumps. What's your opinion? What is done in a "front end over-

haul"? I wasn't planning to keep it more than another year or so.

—Jim L.

A: It wouldn't hurt to get a second opinion in a situation like this. The symptoms of worn out suspension or steering parts may be irregular and rapid tire wear, pulling to one side, the truck following grooves in the pavement, noises, and/or clunking felt in the steering wheel. There's a performance aspect to this, with moderately worn parts, and also a safety consideration, should severe looseness lead to component separation. I'm not sure about

the "losing control" part.

A "front-end overhaul" could mean different things; I'd interpret it as the replacement of all ball joints, tie rod ends, suspension bushings and perhaps front struts or shocks. It's not unreasonable to find a worn ball joint or tie rod end at 141K miles, or perhaps moderate looseness in many of the parts. It's a grey area as to how much looseness should be tolerated and/or corrected.

It's best to renew worn suspension and steering parts before performing a wheel alignment, as the procedure is done while the vehicle is at rest, and road forces act on the loose

parts, messing up alignment during actual driving conditions. Suspension and steering parts are somewhat like your hips, knees and ankles. While it might not be too difficult to align your feet while sitting or standing still, imagine how they might flop around as you ran across varying terrain with loose joints from the hips down. When the tires/wheels are allowed to wander from the desired plane, tire tread is scrubbed away and the vehicle begins to track sloppily.

Testing suspension and steering parts is fairly easy with the vehicle safely elevated. The various joints and bushings

By **BRAD BERGHOLDT**
Tribune News Service

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can be flexed or compressed to check for excessive looseness. Some parts, such as ball joints, may have a visible wear indicator or looseness specification, while other parts require a subjective evaluation. Any general repair shop should be capable of inspecting and replacing worn suspension components. You may find their opinion will differ from that

of the tire shop folks, and you can weigh the merits of replacing perhaps a couple of worn parts or all of them. Let's say you have moderate looseness in many parts (a performance but not a safety concern). This may cut the lifespan of a \$700 set of tires by 1/3, vs. the large cost to restore a truck you'll not be keeping much longer to preferred condition.

Life & Style

Weinstein due in court on charges he assaulted a 3rd woman

NEW YORK (AP)—Harvey Weinstein, who was previously indicted on charges involving two women, was due in court on Monday for arraignment on charges alleging he committed a sex crime against a third woman.

An updated indictment unveiled last week alleges the movie mogul-turned-#MeToo villain performed a forcible sex act on a woman in 2006. The new charges include two counts of predatory sexual assault, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison upon conviction.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr. said the 66-year-old Weinstein is charged with “some of the most serious sexual offenses” that exist under state law.

A lawyer for Weinstein has said he will plead not guilty.

“Mr. Weinstein maintains that all of these allegations are false and he expects to be fully vindicated,” lawyer Ben Brafman said.

One of the other two accusers, who has not been identified publicly, told investigators Weinstein cornered her in a hotel room and raped her in 2013. The other, former actress Lucia Evans, has gone public with her account of Weinstein forcing her to perform oral sex at his office in 2004.

More than 75 women have accused Weinstein, who was one of the most powerful men



In this June 5, 2018 file photo, Harvey Weinstein appears in court in New York. AP

A former Weinstein Co. production assistant, Mimi Haley, last October made allegations against Weinstein that align with the charges in the updated indictment.

Haley said Weinstein forcibly performed oral sex on her in 2006 in what appeared to be a child’s bedroom in his Manhattan apartment. Neither the district attorney’s office nor Haley’s attorney, Gloria Allred, would confirm that Haley is the accuser in the new charges.

New York police said in early November that they were investigating allegations by another Weinstein accuser, “Boardwalk Empire” actress Paz de la Huerta, who told them in October that he raped her twice in 2010.

Vance urged other accusers to come forward, saying the investigation continues.

“If you are a survivor of the predatory abuse with which Mr. Weinstein is charged, there is still time to pursue justice,” he said.

Weinstein, who produced movies including “Pulp Fiction” and “Shakespeare in Love,” has denied all allegations of nonconsensual sex, with his attorney challenging the credibility of his accusers.

The Associated Press generally does not identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they come forward publicly.

Deal for Weinstein Co. covers back pay for De Niro, Streep

NEW YORK (AP)—An agreement reached in the sale of Harvey Weinstein’s movie studio won’t leave Hollywood stars like Robert De Niro and Meryl Streep holding the bag.

Lantern Capital Partners said Friday it’s agreed to make payments to unsecured creditors, such as actors seeking residuals,

as part of a \$289 million Weinstein Co. acquisition it expects to close Friday.

A judge must approve the deal. A Wednesday hearing is scheduled in Delaware.

De Niro and Bradley Cooper say they’re each owed \$940,706 for “Silver Linings Playbook.” Streep says

she’s owed \$168,611 for “August: Osage County.”

The Weinstein Co. filed for bankruptcy protection in March amid fallout from sexual assault allegations against Weinstein.

The movie mogul is due in court Monday for arraignment on charges alleging a sex crime against a third woman.

in Hollywood, of wrongdoing as allegations detailed in Pulitzer Prize-winning stories last October in The New York Times and The New Yorker

magazine swelled into the #MeToo movement.

Several actresses and models accused Weinstein of criminal sexual assaults. They

include: film actress Rose McGowan, who said Weinstein raped her in 1997 in Utah; “Sopranos” actress Annabella Sciorra, who said he raped her

in her New York apartment in 1992; and the Norwegian actress Natassia Malthe, who said he attacked her in a London hotel room in 2008.

A ‘Supreme’ show: Trump savors big reveal for court choice

BERKELEY HEIGHTS, N.J. (AP)—A family separation crisis of his own making continues at the border. His Environmental Protection Agency chief just quit amid mounting scandals. And he’s about to meet with an adversary accused of meddling in the 2016 election.

But President Donald Trump has every confidence that on Monday night, the nation’s attention will be right where he wants it.

After more than a week of pitched speculation, Trump will go on prime-time television to reveal his choice to fill the Supreme Court seat vacated by retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy, selecting a conservative designed to rally Republican voters in a midterm election year. And with that, the optics-obsessed president will be in his comfort zone—taking center stage in a massive show.

Nearly 18 months after Trump set in motion Justice Neil Gorsuch’s nomination,

the reality star-turned-president is more seasoned, more embittered and increasingly comfortable exerting his will over the machinery of government and his own staff. His upcoming “Supreme” show is the latest example of Trump’s push to remake the federal bench with young conservative judges, a crusade he believes will energize GOP voters concerned about the state of the judiciary.

Trump is largely following the same playbook this time as when he successfully rolled out Gorsuch’s nomination in January 2017. White House aides have strict instructions to keep information under wraps so Trump himself can make the big reveal. The president was gleeful when Gorsuch’s name didn’t leak out early.

“So was that a surprise?” Trump said, after announcing his decision.

Still, there are differences this time. In the last go-around, the White House relied heavily on outside consultants to push

Gorsuch over the finish line. Despite a staff exodus that has left key vacancies across the West Wing, the White House this time is retaining more control over the nomination and confirmation processes. A war room of communications, legal and research staff has been assembled in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building to promote and defend the nominee.

Trump has reveled in building up suspense in the days leading up to his speech, offering fragments of information here and there but strategically keeping the guessing game alive. Drawn from a public list of 25 candidates approved by conservative groups, the president’s top contenders include federal appeals court judges Brett Kavanaugh, Raymond Kethledge, Amy Coney Barrett and Thomas Hardiman. The White House has been preparing confirmation materials on all four.

Drawing out the suspense the day before his announce-

ment, Trump told reporters in New Jersey on Sunday that he was “getting very close to making a decision.” He then said it would be “decided tonight or tomorrow.”

Past announcements of Supreme Court nominees were not made in prime time. President Barack Obama announced the selection of Justices Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor from the White House during the day.

More than 33 million viewers watched Trump announce Gorsuch last year. The audience edged the 31.3 million who watched Obama’s final State of the Union address but was dwarfed by the 56.5 million who saw Obama announce the killing of Osama bin Laden in 2011, among the decade’s most-watched presidential speeches.

The theatrics surrounding Trump’s court selection should come as no surprise. His presidency is rife with made-for-TV moments. With Trump, a Cabinet meeting becomes a freewheeling speech to the nation, and a walk to Marine

One turns into an impromptu news conference. He recently strode out the door of the White House to participate in a Fox News live broadcast from the driveway. And his Singapore summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was staged as a massive media event.

“Everything Trump does gets more sensational than with past presidents,” said Jeffrey McCaul, a communications professor at DePauw University. “I’m sure he’s hoping for a huge prime-time audience, and he’ll probably get it.”

Trump has also packed his administration with cable television veterans. National security adviser John Bolton is a former Fox contributor, and economic adviser Larry Kudlow is a former CNBC personality. Trump’s latest White House addition is former Fox News executive Bill Shine, the new deputy chief of staff for communications.

Theatrics aside, advisers stress that Trump’s judicial selection process has been

serious. He interviewed six top prospects and has been reviewing his options with lawmakers and outside advisers. In addition, Vice President Mike Pence met in person with Kethledge, Barrett and Kavanaugh, said a person familiar with the process who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

In an administration light on policy achievements, the president often views media attention—and positive headlines—as a victory unto itself.

But Trump recognizes that the court pick offers both sizzle and substance, giving him the opportunity to tip the balance on the court toward conservatives for decades.

Douglas Brinkley, a history professor at Rice University, said the nomination has the added benefit of dominating the news, potentially overshadowing coverage of migrant children separated from their parents at the border.

Said Brinkley: “It’s been a tough summer until this gift that Kennedy gave him.”

'Ant-Man and the Wasp' buzzes to \$76 million debut

NEW YORK (AP)—Despite its heroes' diminutive size, "Ant-Man and the Wasp" opened with typical Marvel might at the box office, with an estimated \$76 million in ticket sales.

According to studio estimates Sunday, the "Ant-Man" sequel easily surpassed the \$57 million debut of the 2015 original in North America. The 20th film in the Marvel Cinematic Universe—and the 20th to debut no. 1 at the box office—"Ant-Man and the Wasp" comes on the heels of two mammoth Marvel successes this year: "Black Panther" and "Avengers: Infinity War."

While the first "Ant-Man," starring Paul Rudd, had a rocky road to release due to a late director change, the roll-out of the sequel, directed by Peyton Reed, was smoother. Cathleen Taff, head of distribution for Disney, credited a marketing campaign that played up the film as a more modest, funny and light-hearted change-of-pace for Marvel following the grandiosity of



"Infinity War."

"It came in solidly within of our range and definitely sized-up the sequel," said Taff.

"Ant-Man and the Wasp," with a reported production budget of about \$160 million, may have performed well enough to firmly establish its place among Marvel's more main-line superheroes. Reviews were good (86 percent fresh on Rotten Tomatoes) and audiences gave it an A-minus

CinemaScore. Ticket sales overseas added another \$85 million.

Befitting the summer season, the weekend's top five films were all sequels. The weekend's other new wide release was Blumhouse Productions' "The First Purge," the fourth film in the low-budget horror franchise about an annual 12-hour period of lawlessness. With July 4th falling on a Wednesday and thus depriving Hollywood of a holiday weekend, Universal opted to release "The First Purge" on Wednesday, while "Ant-Man" waited for the customary Thursday night previews.

"The First Purge" debuted with \$32 million over the five-day frame, and \$18.5 million for the weekend. Particularly following 2016's "The Purge: Election Year," the franchise has made satirical jabs at social commentary. "First Purge," a Staten Island-set prequel, focuses on the ritual's origins as a method of culling minorities.

"Blumhouse just continues to overdeliver for us," said Jim Orr, distribution chief for Blumhouse's distribution partner, Universal. "The

Purge franchise continually comments on issues that are current in society, obviously through a kind of dark and distorted lens. Tying it to the July Fourth holiday made a lot of sense."

Some Los Angeles theaters overperformed, executives said, likely due to those seeking air conditioning during the Southern California heat wave. But whether due to travel- or weather-related reasons, nationwide ticket sales were unexpectedly soft on Saturday. The weekend was about 10 percent off the pace of the same weekend last year, when "Spider-Man: Homecoming" opened, according to comScore. But the summer box office overall, up 13.5 percent from last year, remains robust.

The films that trailed "Ant-Man" hit their own milestones. Disney's "Incredibles 2" passed "Finding Dory" to become Pixar's top-grossing film domestically, not accounting for inflation. It earned \$29 million in its fourth weekend, bringing its domestic total to \$504 million and its worldwide haul to \$773 million.

With \$28.6 million in its third weekend, Univer-

^{AP}
This image released by Marvel Studios shows Paul Rudd in a scene from "Ant-Man and the Wasp."

sal's "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" crossed \$1 billion worldwide. It's done especially well internationally, which has made up 69 percent of the dinosaur sequel's global footprint.

As a clear alternative to the multiplex offerings, the "Mister Rogers" documentary "Won't You Be My Neighbor" continued to perform as an art-house sensation. Ranking ninth for the weekend (in between "Tag" and "Deadpool 2"), the Focus Features release earned \$2.6 million in 893 theaters over the weekend. With \$12.4 million in five weeks, it's the year's top documentary at the box office, edging out the Ruth Bader Ginsburg doc "RBG."

Boots Riley's surreal satire "Sorry to Bother You," starring Lakeith Stanfield and Tessa Thompson, made one of the year's best debuts, per-screen.

The acclaimed Annapurna Pictures release opened with \$717,302 on 16 screens, good for a per-screen average of \$44,831. The directorial debut of the hip-hop pioneer Riley, "Sorry to Bother You" is about a black telemarketer who's catapulted into success after he adopts a "white voice."

Movie theaters in China were packed by a based-on-a-true-story black comedy about a man who becomes a savior to leukemia patients by smuggling cheaper generic drugs from India. The Chinese film "Dying to Survive," which has drawn comparisons to the AIDS drama "Dallas Buyers Club," opened with \$146 million in the world's second largest movie market, according to comScore.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday also are included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Mick Jagger speaks to support Poland's judges at Warsaw gig

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Mick Jagger made a reference to Poland's controversial judicial system overhaul during a Rolling Stones concert Sunday, according to news portals in Poland.

Gazeta.pl said Jagger spoke in Polish to fans at the concert in Warsaw's National Stadium, saying: "I am too old to be a judge but not too old to sing." One of the judicial changes is setting a maximum age of 65 for judges, forcing many of them to retire.

Polish democracy icon

Lech Walesa sent a letter to the rock group Saturday asking it to make a gesture of support for Poland's judges and the rule of law. Many European institutions say Poland's rule of law is threatened by the overhaul implemented by the right-wing government.

According to Onet.pl, Jagger also said Poles should see how much they have achieved since the band's 1967 Warsaw concert, under communist times. Poland is now a democratic European Union member.

Old friend is slow to follow up on attempt to reconnect

DEAR ABBY: I recently reconnected with my best friend from high school. I moved out of state at the age of 30, and we lost touch. Turns out she lives about 70 miles from me. Neither of us married or had children.

Someone told me where she works and I called her. She called back the following weekend, and we talked for a couple of hours. It was a good conversation, and it ended with her saying she would be in touch in the next couple of months. We had discussed getting together for lunch.

It has been almost four months and I'm puzzled as to why I have not heard from her. Should I let it go or contact her once more? It bothers me that she doesn't seem to want to get together and hasn't told me why. Any suggestions?

RECONNECTING IN THE WEST

DEAR RECONNECTING: There could be any number of reasons why your old friend let this slide. Contact her again and "remind" her that you had discussed having lunch together. Her response—or lack of one—will tell you if she's really interested.

DEAR ABBY: An issue needs addressing regarding same-sex marriage, and I hope you will share this with your readers. When asking someone about his or her marital status, please keep in mind that when the person responds "married," it may not necessarily mean to a person of the opposite sex. It would

be better to ask, "What is your spouse's name?" instead of automatically saying, "And her/his name is ...?"

While dealing with customer service recently, the service representative kept saying "your partner" every time I said "husband." After three corrections, I emphatically stated "my husband" and she begrudgingly finished our transaction. (Yes, I did speak to her supervisor.)

"Partner" implies being in a business of some type. I know some people refer to their spouses as partners, but not everyone does. Thanks for printing this, Abby.

"SPOUSES" NOT "PARTNERS" IN DELAWARE

DEAR S. NOT P.: The world is changing quickly, and not everyone has been able to keep up with it. The customer service representative should have picked up on the fact that you preferred she refer to your spouse as "husband" the first time you said it. You should not have had to remind her three times. However, because you did, you were right to talk to a supervisor so the woman could be counseled and will, one hopes, be more sensitive in the future.

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old granddaughter is being verbally abused by her dad, who has joint custody. He makes her cry every time she spends time with him. Also, there often is not enough food in the house. As a grandmother, what can I do

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



to protect my granddaughter?

SHE NEEDS HELP

DEAR SHE NEEDS HELP: Your granddaughter's father may have joint custody, but because he is verbally abusive and doesn't have enough food in the house to feed her, your daughter may have to take him back to court and get a modification of the custody order. Because your granddaughter is now 15, she has a right to be heard on the subject.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

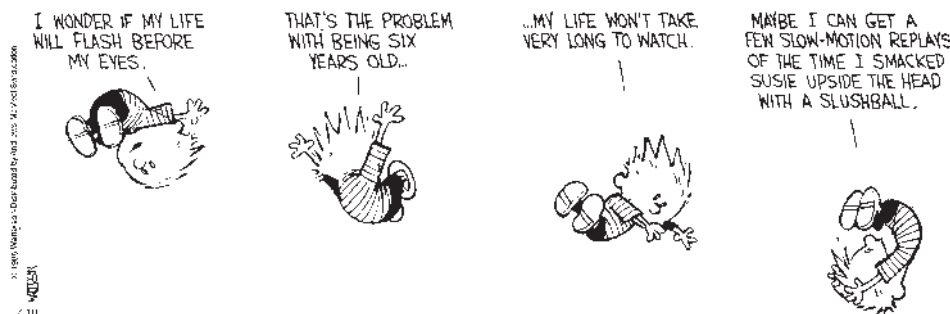
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

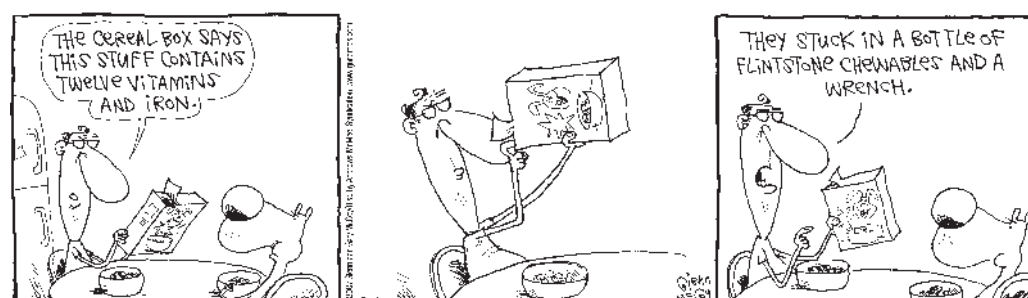


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

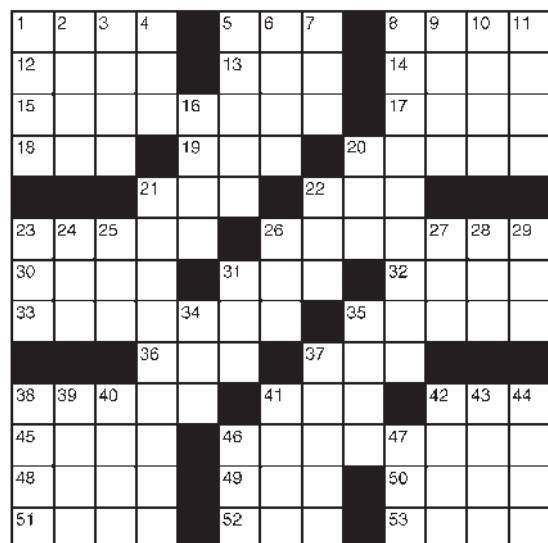
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Kvetches
5 Secret agent
8 "Mamma Mia" group
12 Ms. Brockovich
13 Misery
14 Banner
15 Well-to-do
17 Greek cheese
18 Letters after Q
19 Aviate
20 Waste conduit
21 "You've got mail" co.
22 Spasm
23 Squabbles
26 Title for Kagan or Alito
30 Santa's runaway
31 Boston team, for short
32 Persia, today
- DOWN**
- 33 Unease
35 Honshu city
36 24 hours
37 Do wrong
38 Moroccan co's capital
41 Fine, at NASA
42 Hit with a ray gun
45 Norwegian saint
46 Kinship
48 Writer Morrison
49 A Gershwin brother
50 List-ending abbr.
51 Doc's "Now!"
- DOWN**
- 1 Close
2 Barks
3 Present
4 NBC
5 "Peachy!"
6 Shetland, for one
7 Still
8 Fondness
9 Botched
10 Decrease
11 Petri dish gel
16 Sci-fi vehicles
20 Bro's kin
21 Sworn statement
22 Prom rental
23 — -la-la
24 Charged bit
25 Sly one
26 Bliss
27 Annoy
28 Low isle
29 Rock's Brian
31 Pigs' digs
34 Dig in
35 "Kon- —"
37 Remote locations?
38 Decays
39 Oodles
40 Eric of "Troy"
41 Roundish do
42 Tubular pasta
43 — impasse
44 Gomer of classic TV
46 Succor
47 Just out

Solution time: 22 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-10



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Simpson, 38; Adrian Grenier, 42; Sofia Vergara, 46; Arlo Guthrie, 71.

Happy Birthday: Try something new; implement plans you've been contemplating for a long time. It's time to start doing instead of just talking. Partnerships should be assessed and restricted to suit the other person's and your needs. Once you establish how to make things better, you can move forward knowing everyone will be better off. Personal and professional gains can be made. Your numbers are 5, 9, 21, 24, 35, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Use your emotional energy to push your way to the top. Discuss your thoughts, ideas and plans, and you will impress someone who can influence your future. Take pride in what you do, but don't take offense if someone offers constructive criticism. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Change can be good if you take time to figure out the best way to bring it about. Taking the steps required to ensure that you abide by any rules or regulations will help you develop a solid plan. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your emotions in check when dealing with personal matters. Someone will get the wrong idea if you aren't consistent or you send mixed messages. Don't alter your looks without examining the pros and cons of what you want to do. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make a statement, figure out what you want to share and don't be afraid to do things

differently. It's your uniqueness that will capture attention and bring others around to your way of thinking. Romance will improve your life. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Give-and-take situations will turn out better than anticipated as long as you don't make the stakes too high or the cost beyond your means. Smart calculations coupled with sharing will result in a better standard of living. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look for the good in everything and everyone; you'll give a positive spin to whatever you do. Listen, observe and make choices based on what's acceptable. Working alongside others and keeping your opinions to yourself will pay off. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Inject a little enthusiasm into all you do. Elaborate on an idea that will assist you in helping others. Your input and insight will encourage people to participate in your plans. A passionate approach to life will command attention. ★★★★★

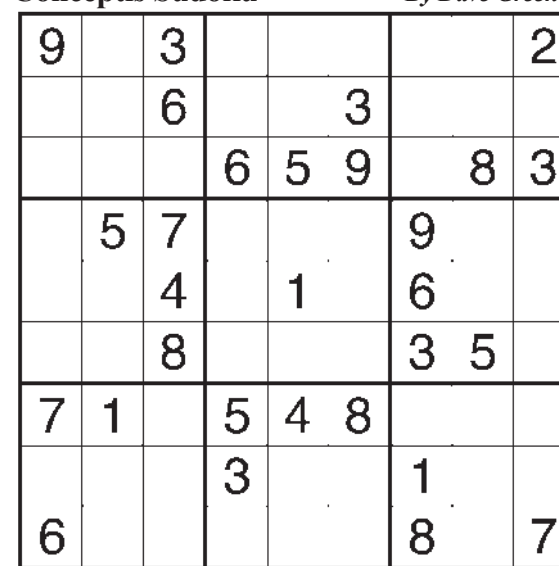
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take care of your responsibilities first. If you leave something unfinished, you will be faced with complaints that can ruin your day or your relationship with someone. First things first, and then you can move on to more enjoyable pastimes. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you want to change something in your life, make it count. Doing something halfway will not be satisfying and could end up costing you more in the long run. Do it right the first time. Don't hesitate. ★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

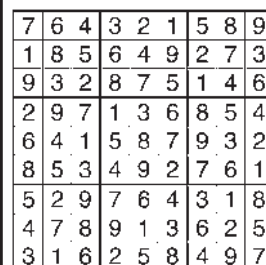


Difficulty Level ★★

7/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your serious approach to life will win praise from those who appreciate what you've accomplished, but if you aren't having fun as well, you may not get the full benefit from your achievements. Take time out for pleasure. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Decide what it is you want and how you are going to pay for it before you start. Having a good plan in place will ease stress and ensure success. Don't let emotional manipulation push you in the wrong direction. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Know what you are up against before you try to take over a situation that can lead to problems at home. Getting along with loved ones will help you escape a situation that can lead to arguments and isolation. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, open and persuasive. You are courageous and willful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HUMAN VOICE SOUNDS

Solution: 8 letters



© 2012 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 7/10

Baby, Bass, Bite, Boing, Breath, Cheer, Chest, Chew, Clear, Cord, Cough, Crying, Eating, Gargle, Gasp, Gigue, Gulp, Head, Hiccup, Howl, Hum, Kiss, Larynx, Laugh, Loud, Mouth, Palate, Pant, Pitch, Pout, Puff, Range, Roar, Scream, Shout, Sigh, Sing, Sips, Slow, Slurp, Sneeze, Snore, Soprano, Squeak, Swish, Talk, Tenor, Tone, Tongue, Vocal, Vowel, Whine, Whisper, Whistle, Yawn

Yesterday's Answer: MAKEUP

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 51, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Househelper - Knowledge in cooking Chinese,Japanese, Thai, Cuisine is a must. Experienced in household chores like cleaning, ironing, gardening, paying bills, and baby sitting. With valid driver's license.

(3) Security Guard - Wide security experience in access systems, patrolling, investigative procedures, incident report writing, and customer service. Atleast 2 years of experience. Willing to work flexible time.

(7) Trash Collector - Atleast High School graduate. With valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

(1) Garbage Collector Supervisor - Experienced in supervising and coordinating activities of workers engaged in collecting garbage and other refuse and transporting to disposal plants or areas. With valid driving license. Hardworking and trustworthy. Willing to work flexible time.

(2) Auto Mechanic - Must have atleast 2 yrs. work related experience. Excellent diagnostic/ repair skills of vehicle systems. High self motivation.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) Screen Printer - Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Knowledge in screen printing equipment & machines. Able to work flexible hours.


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(1) Graphic Artist – Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience as Graphic Artist. Proficient in Illustrator/Photoshop CS5.

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(2) Barber/Beautician – One to Two years experience as Barber/Beautician. Knowledgeable in giving Hair Cut, Hair Colors, Hair High-lights.

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Re-Announcement (Amendment) No. 17-044
Position Title: **Specialty Instructor-Associate Professor, Nursing**
Department: Nursing
Pay Level & Step: 27/03, 29-30/01
Annual Salary: \$46,265.08 - \$50,040.31
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: February 09, 2018
Closing Date: Until Filled

Re-Announcement (Amendment) No. 18-004
Position Title: **Counselor, International Student Success**
Department: Learning Support Services
Pay Level & Step: 21/Steps 01-02
Annual Salary: \$41,180.02 - \$42,621.32
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: February 02, 2018
Closing Date: Until Filled

Re-Announcement (Amendment IV)
Position Title: **Program Lead: Extension & Research Communications**
Department: Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Services (CREES)
Pay Level & Step: 33/01 – 36/02
Annual Salary: \$44,640.09 - \$53,332.49
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: February 27, 2018
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-024
Position Title: **Director, Human Resources**
Department: Human Resources
Pay Level & Step: X-01/01-02
Annual Salary: \$55,000.00 - \$56,925.00
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: June 25, 2018
Closing Date: July 05, 2018 or Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-021
Position Title: **Scientist (Horticulture/Crop)**
Department: Cooperative Research, Extension & Education Services (CREES)
Pay Level & Step: 36/01-02
Annual Salary: \$51,528.98 - \$53,332.49
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: June 13, 2018
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-018
Position Title: **Instructor-Associate Professor, Business (Computer Applications)**
Department: School of Business
Pay Level & Step: 27, 29-30/01
Annual Salary: \$43,188.94 - \$50,040.31
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: June 20, 2018
Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-019
Position Title: **Instructor-Associate Professor, Science**
Department: Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics
Pay Level & Step: 27, 29-30/01
Annual Salary: \$43,188.94 - \$50,040.31
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: June 29, 2018
Closing Date: July 09, 2018 or Until Filled

Announcement No. 17-041
Position Title: **Director of Marketing & Communications**
Department: Administration & Advancement
Pay Level & Step: 25/01-04
Annual Salary: \$49,864.16 - \$55,285.29
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: June 20, 2018
Closing Date: Until Filled

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Ohtani's pinch-hit homer lifts Angels over Dodgers



ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—
Shohei

Ohtani's pinch-hit home run in the seventh inning sent Andrew Heaney and the Los Angeles Angels to a 4-3 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday.

Albert Pujols also went deep for the Angels, tying the score at 3 in the sixth. Justin Upton had a two-run single.

Heaney (5-6) allowed only three hits and equaled a career high with 10 strikeouts in seven innings to help the Angels take two of three at home in the Freeway Series. He gave up an early three-run homer to Yasiel Puig, who later left with an oblique injury.

Ohtani drove his first career pinch-hit homer a projected 443 feet to center field off reliever JT Chargois (2-2). It also was the Angels' first pinch-hit home run of the season and Ohtani's seventh in the majors.

The two-way rookie star from Japan, unavailable to pitch lately because of an elbow injury, fouled a ball off his knee one day earlier and experienced soreness. Before the game, it was unclear if he would be able to come off the bench.

Justin Anderson got Cody Bellinger to ground into a game-ending double play for his fourth save.

Cubs 6, Reds 5, 10 innings

In Chicago, David Bote drove in the winning run with a bases-loaded walk in the 10th inning, lifting Chicago over Cincinnati.

Javier Baez had two hits and two RBI for the Cubs, who have earned their last nine wins in comeback fashion. Albert Almora Jr. and Ian Happ also had two hits apiece, and Addison Russell drove in three runs.

Eugenio Suarez and Adam Duvall homered for the Reds, who had won their previous five series.

Mariners 6, Rockies 4

In Seattle, Ryon Healy homered and tied a career high with five RBI, leading Seattle over Colorado.

Healy, who had a two-run double in the first inning, put the Mariners ahead for good with a three-run homer—his 18th of the season—in the sixth. He entered the game in an 0-for-13 slump.

Wade LeBlanc (5-0) won despite giving up four runs in six innings. The three homers allowed were his most this season.

Edwin Diaz struck out all three batters he faced in the ninth for his major league-leading 35th save.



Giants 13, Cardinals 8

In San Francisco, Pablo Sandoval homered and had five RBI to back an uneven start by Madison Bumgarner as San Francisco beat St. Louis.

Andrew McCutchen and Alen Hanson each added three hits. Brandon Belt and Gorkys Hernandez had two apiece to help the Giants split the four-game series.

Bumgarner (2-3) earned his second win this season despite an erratic outing.

Indians 6, Athletics 0

In Cleveland, Brett Anderson came off the disabled list and

pitched effectively into the sixth inning before turning things over to Oakland's outstanding bullpen as the Athletics blanked Cleveland.

Stephen Piscotty hit a two-run homer off rookie Shane Bieber (4-1), and Jed Lowrie had a solo shot as Oakland won for the 10th time in 12 games to take two of three from the Indians.

Anderson (1-2) had been sidelined with a shoulder strain, one of several injuries to the A's starting staff. But the left-hander looked sharp in his first start since May 18, limiting the Indians to three hits

and leaving with a 4-0 lead.

Astros 2, White Sox 1

In Houston, Dallas Keuchel pitched seven strong innings, Jose Altuve homered and Houston manufactured the go-ahead run in the seventh to complete a four-game sweep of Chicago.

Altuve's solo shot put the Astros up 1-0 in the fourth.

Yankees 2, Blue Jays 1, 10 innings

In Toronto, Brett Gardner hit a tiebreaking single in the 10th inning and New York beat Toronto for its fourth win in five games.

Chad Green (5-1) pitched one inning for the win and David Robertson finished for his second save.

Padres 4, Diamondbacks 3, 16 innings

In Phoenix, Wil Myers homered for San Diego for the fourth time in two days, connecting in the 16th inning off Arizona catcher Jeff Mathis.

Myers clubbed a 3-2 pitch from Mathis (0-1) over the right-field fence with two outs.

Rangers 3, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Austin Bibens-

Los Angeles Angels' Shohei Ohtani, of Japan, hits a solo home run during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Sunday, July 8, 2018, in Anaheim, Calif.

Dirk pitched Texas past Detroit.

Jurickson Profar homered in the first inning and the Rangers split the four-game series. Bibens-Dirkx (2-2) allowed three hits and a walk in 5 1/3 innings. He struck out five.

Rays 9, Mets 0

In New York, Nathan Eovaldi took a perfect game into the seventh inning, C.J. Cron hit an early three-run homer and Tampa Bay routed New York.

Eovaldi retired his first 18 batters before Brandon Nimmo lined a clean single to right field leading off the seventh.

Pirates 4, Phillies 1

In Pittsburgh, Nick Kingham pitched six solid innings and had two RBI, helping Pittsburgh avoid a three-game sweep against Philadelphia.

In his eighth major league start, Kingham (3-4) allowed one run and four hits with five strikeouts and one walk for his first win since May 4.

Marlins 10, Nationals 2

In Washington, J.T. Realmuto had a career-high five hits and drove in three runs, Martin Prado got four hits and Miami snapped a 14-game losing streak to Washington.

The Marlins piled up a season-high 22 hits and salvaged the finale of a four-game series.

Twins 10, Orioles 1

In Minneapolis, Jake Odorizzi pitched six scoreless innings and Mitch Garver, Eduardo Escobar and Brian Dozier homered as Minnesota completed a four-game sweep of Baltimore.

Odorizzi (4-6) turned in his third consecutive strong outing, allowing just five hits and a walk while striking out five.

Red Sox 7, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Rick Porcello pitched seven effective innings, Andrew Benintendi had four hits and Boston beat Kansas City.

The Red Sox hit .385 and had 68 baserunners in sweeping the three-game series.

Brewers 10, Braves 3

In Milwaukee, Jesus Aguilar homered twice, Hernan Perez added a three-run shot and Milwaukee defeated Atlanta.

Aguilar hit a solo drive in the seventh and a three-run shot in the eighth.

Royals sign 16-year-old Japanese pitcher out of junior high

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Kaito Yuki is headed to the Kansas City Royals organization instead of attending high school in Japan.

The team signed Yuki, a 16-year-old pitcher, out of junior high to a standard seven-year minor league contract Sunday. He is thought to be the first Japanese junior high school player to sign with a major league club.

"I wanted to play in the United States as soon as possible, rather than playing high school ball at Koshien Stadium (in Japan's iconic national championship)," Yuki said in a Royals press release.

Yuki is listed at 6-foot-2, 170 pounds and his fastball has been clocked at 87-88 mph. He was born on May 12, 2002.

"My goal is to do well in the majors. Not everybody is

given that chance, so I want to do my best," he said at a news conference in his hometown of Osaka.

Yuki has been studying English before his move to the United States. The Royals are optimistic that after paperwork is completed, he will arrive in August at the team's spring training complex in Surprise, Arizona, to begin familiarizing himself with the local culture and language.

He would participate in the Royals' fall instructional league in September and October, with the objective of making his professional debut in the minors next year.

"The first thing is for him to be patient and build up his body, and then if he stays on course, in five years get an invite to major league spring training," said Hiroyuki Oya,

a Royals international scout.

Yuki has been compared to Chicago Cubs pitcher Yu Darvish, who grew up in the same city.

"I'm anxious, but I am more excited now," Yuki said at his news conference in Japan.

He garnered the attention of scouts last year while representing Japan in a youth tournament in the United States.

"We are excited to add Kaito Yuki to our organization," said Rene Francisco, Royals vice president and assistant general manager of major league and international operations. "We are very much looking forward to seeing him get started in professional baseball next year. I'd like to thank and congratulate our Pacific Rim coordinator Phil Dale and our scout in Japan, Hiro Oya, for the tremendous

work in identifying and signing this young man."

Yuki is also believed to be the youngest player from Japan to sign with a big league team.

"He's not even in high school," Francisco said. "He and his family chose to sign with Kansas City instead of going the normal route Japanese players take. It's pretty amazing what this kid is doing. Credit to Phil and Hiro."

The Royals have had four Japanese players: pitchers Hideo Nomo, Mac Suzuki and Yasubiko Yubuta, and outfielder Nori Aoki.

Aoki, acquired in a trade with the Milwaukee Brewers, was the most recent. He was a starter on the 2014 team that won the American League pennant and lost to the San Francisco Giants in the World Series.

Federer, Serena aim to survive carnage at Wimbledon

LONDON (AP)—Roger Federer and Serena Williams will be expected to maintain their flawless progress at Wimbledon as the title favorites head into the fourth round looking to survive the tournament's giant-killing carnage on Monday.



Federer has been in imperious mood in pursuit of his ninth Wimbledon crown, while Williams is rounding into form just as the seven-time champion's rivals have collapsed all around her.

The status quo has been challenged like never before in the women's singles, with nine of the top 10 seeds crashing out before the Wimbledon last 16 for the first time in the Open era.

In the men's draw, third seed Marin Cilic, fourth seed Alexander Zverev and sixth seed Grigor Dimitrov have all fallen.

But it's business as usual for Federer as the defending champion took his consecutive sets won at Wimbledon to 29 in a third round dismissal of Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff.

Federer's 175th win from 200 career grass-court matches saw him overtake Jimmy Connors as the most successful male player on the surface. Next, the Swiss star faces French 22nd seed Adrian Mannarino for a place in the quarter-finals.

World number two Federer, eyeing a 21st Grand Slam title, has won all five of his previous meetings with Mannarino, a 30-year-old journeyman who has never been past the

last 16 at a major.

Although Federer is approaching peak form, he knows world number one Rafael Nadal—yet to drop a set in his first three matches—and three-time Wimbledon winner Novak Djokovic—playing his way back to his best this week—are lurking as potential final opponents.

French Open champion Nadal, bidding for a first Wimbledon title since 2010, plays Czech world number 93 Jiri Vesely, while Djokovic takes on Russian world number 40 Karen Khachanov.

"Novak and Rafa, all these guys are still in the draw," Federer said.

"At the end of the day I feel on our side not that much has happened. I know on the women's side more so.

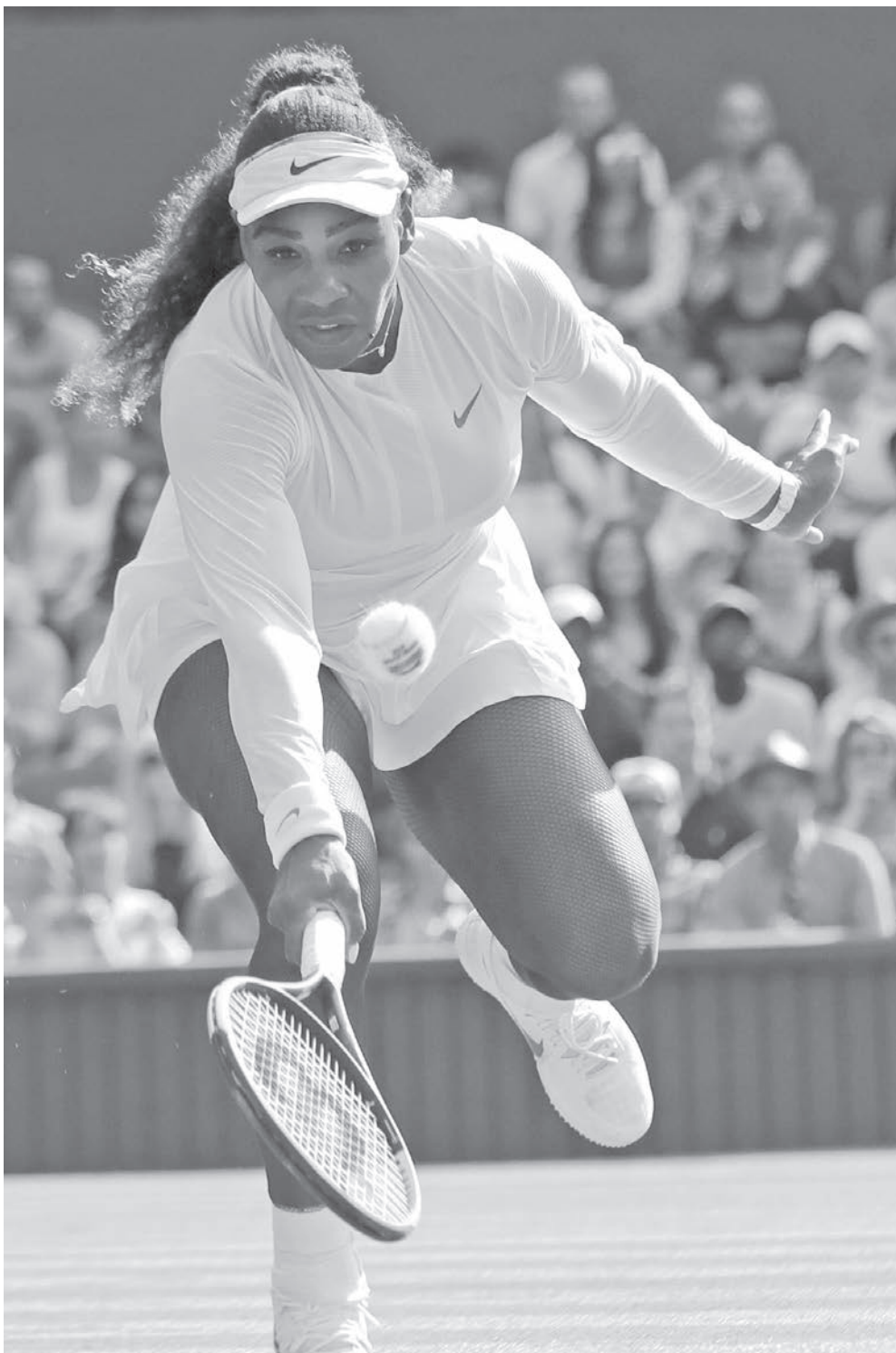
"In the past it has made me nervous when I've seen bigger guys go out.

"I feel like, 'OK, it's me next time'. I didn't feel the effect this time."

Federer's tie is one of 16 fourth round matches across the men's and women's events in a frenetic day of action at the All England Club.

With the draw opening up in her favour, Williams is widely expected to make history with a first Grand Slam title since the birth of her daughter Olympia in September last year.

A series of unexpected results have seen Garbine Muguruza, Maria Sharapova, Simona Halep, Petra Kvitova, Venus Williams and Caroline



AP
Serena Williams of the United States returns the ball to France's Kristina Mladenovic during their women's singles match on the fifth day of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Friday July 6, 2018.

Wozniacki all eliminated. The 36-year-old faces Russian qualifier—and fellow mother—Evgeniya Rodina in the last 16.

Williams will equal Margaret Court's record of 24 Grand Slam titles if she wins Wimbledon for the third time in the last four years. Having missed Wimbledon last year due to her pregnancy, Serena is on a 17-match winning streak at the All England Club.

It is a remarkable record sure to alarm her opponents, but Williams, seeded 25th after her maternity leave, admits that fear factor can be a double-edged sword.

"Yeah, there's definitely that aura, that kind of thing of playing Serena," she said.

"Every single match I play, whether I'm coming back from a baby or surgery, it doesn't matter, these young ladies, they bring a game that I've never seen before.

"That's what makes me great: I always play everyone at their greatest, so I have to be greater."

Karolina Pliskova, the seventh seed, is the only top 10 ranked player remaining, but she has never won a major title. The Czech faces Dutch 20th seed Kiki Bertens, who stunned five-time Wimbledon winner Venus in the third round.



LAS VEGAS (AP)—Zach LaVine is staying in Chicago, with one of the biggest deals of free agency this summer now complete.

The Bulls on Sunday formally matched the four-year, \$80 million offer sheet LaVine signed with the Sacramento Kings, a move that was expected almost from the instant the restricted free agent got the offer.

LaVine is one of only six free agents to get deals worth that much so far this summer, joining Chris Paul (\$160 million), LeBron James (\$153 million), Nikola Jokic (\$148 million), Paul George (\$137 million) and Aaron Gordon (\$80 million). Phoenix's Devin Booker signed a \$158 million deal as well, his coming in the form of an extension and not through a foray into free agency.

LaVine has missed 91 of a possible 162 games over the past two seasons because of injuries, and the Bulls will have some language in this contract protecting them if his

Bulls match Kings' 4-year contract offer for LaVine

surgically repaired left knee remains problematic.

"Zach showed a relentless work ethic in rehabbing his ACL injury to return to the court, and he has a visible passion for the game of basketball," Bulls vice president

of basketball operations John Paxson said. "We know that those attributes, along with his honed skills, will make him an impact player in this league for years to come. We're thrilled to keep Zach on this Bulls team moving forward."

LaVine appeared in only 24 games for the Bulls last season, averaging 16.7 points on 38 percent shooting. The Bulls acquired LaVine a year ago, as part of the trade that sent Jimmy Butler from Chicago to Minnesota.

"We're excited now that we get to keep him," Paxson said.

Deals have continued coming at a relatively slow pace since the July 1 opening day of free agency, when basically \$1 billion in new contracts were agreed to in 24 hours

Lonnie Walker IV settling in nicely with Spurs this summer

LAS VEGAS (AP)—These are highly uncertain times for the San Antonio Spurs.

That's why Lonnie Walker IV might be so valuable.

This is a summer when Spurs mainstay Tony Parker has already left for Charlotte, when four-time NBA champion Manu Ginobili is going through what now seems like his annual contemplation of retirement and when 2014 NBA Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard's future is most uncertain—both in terms of where he may play next and if his quadriceps injury is healed to the point where he can return to the court.

But Walker IV is here, and he's eager to be a part of whatever will be in San Antonio.

"I've worked so hard to get to this moment that I can't not be confident to play against grown men who are older than me," said Walker, who turned pro after one season with the Miami Hurricanes. "I know day-in and day-out the blood, sweat and tears I put into this game and how great a player I can become."

He had 14 points in the Spurs' 95-90 win over the Washington Wizards on Sunday—Day 3 of the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas, where there was another

10-game slate as the teams progress toward the start of playoffs later this week.

It's hard to imagine there's a player in Las Vegas happier with his current lot in life than Walker IV.

He just got his first apartment, a major accomplishment for a kid whose upbringing in Reading, Pennsylvania was often challenging to say the least. In an Instagram post after getting his new place in San Antonio, Walker IV opened up about how hard times were.

"Survival by the fittest was the strategy growing up," he wrote. "Splitting a cheeseburger for dinner. Chips for break-

fast. Not knowing where I will sleep the next day. Living with 10 plus people. Waking up in the middle of the night because your house got shot up. Who would've thought at the age of 19. I'm alive and healthy and just got my first apt. Who would've thought that this kid from Reading would make it out. No one understands my struggle and my pain."

Such worries are long gone.

He's guaranteed to make \$5 million in salary over the next two years, has signed a shoe deal with Adidas and more than likely will grab a few more endorsements along the way.

—and only \$400 million or so more in deals have been struck since.

Paul's four-year, \$160 million deal to stay in Houston was officially signed Sunday. He announced that he agreed to the terms of that contract right at 12:01 EDT on July 1, when free agency was officially beginning.

Also Sunday, a pair of veteran centers found new homes.

Zaza Pachulia is signing a one-year, \$2.4 million contract with the Detroit Pistons after starting 127 regular-season games over the last two seasons with the Golden State Warriors—helping them win championships in both seasons. And Brook Lopez has agreed to a one-year, \$3.5 million contract with the Milwaukee Bucks, after spending last season with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Both deals were confirmed to The Associated Press by people directly involved in the negotiations, both of whom spoke on condition of anonymity because neither had been formally announced by the clubs involved.

Athletics schedule for Micro Games out

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The tentative schedule of events for the athletics competition in the 2018 Micronesian Games has been released with the tournament running from July 16 to 19 at the Yap Sports Complex oval.

Athletics will start with the men and women's 10K on July 16 at 7am, while the 13 remaining events in the opening day will take place in the afternoon session. Events lined up are the women's 100m hurdles, shot put, 200m run, and high jump for the heptathlon, women and men's 100m run heats, women's long jump, women and men's 400m run heats, men's discus, and women's javelin. The finals for the men and women's 100m runs are set for the final event of



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Therize Millare, seen here racing in the 1,500m event of last month's Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 at the Oleai Sports Complex, is among the CNMI athletes competing in the 2018 Micronesian Games in Yap.



the evening of Day 1.

Then on Day 2, the octathlon will start along with the remaining events (finals) in heptathlon. Others scheduled for July 17 are the finals of the men and women's 400m runs, men's long jump, women's shot put, men's 500m run, and women's high jump.

For the penultimate day, athletes will compete in relays (4x100m in men and women's divisions), 200m run heats, men's 400m hurdles, men's and women's 800m finals, men's high jump, women's triple jump, and the remaining events in octathlon.

For the last day of the com-

petition, runners will still have the relays (4x400m) along with the finals of the 200m runs, 1,500m, women's discus, men's javelin, men's triple jump, and hurdles (men's 110 and women's 100).

The CNMI will be fielding 18 individuals in the athletics events. The list includes Mark

Esalan, Nick Gross, Antonio Ichio, Jamie Pangelinan, Tyler Santos, Gabriel Sappa, Ronald Olopai, Jerlyn Castillo, Leani Acosta, Therize Millare, Traven Quitugua, Beo Ngirchongor, Orrin Pharmin, Douglas Schmidt, Neldreyton Skerei, Lia Rangamar, Rachel Abrams, Zarinae Sapong.

TAN

From Page 28

runs in the regional tournament held last month and posted personal both times in both events. She timed in at 12:20.99 in the 3,000m race and 21:49.99 in the 5,000m. The 17-year-old student also participated in the 1,500m run and won a silver medal after checking in at 5:39.64.

Then a day after the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 concluded, Tan competed in the 25th Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run and was the first female finisher of the seven-kilometer race after clocking in at 29:38.

With her impressive runs in last month's competition, Tan qualified for the 2018 Micronesian Games, but will not make the trip to Yap this weekend due to an earlier commitment and the exclusion of her race (marathon) from the calendar of events in the quadrennial meet.

Instead of going to Yap, Tan went to Malaysia early this month and won the L'Occitane Race For Vision 5K Run. She did the charity event held to help raise awareness to fight

avoidable blindness with her mom, Lydia, and has lined up a couple of races in the remaining months of 2018.

"I will most likely join the Oceania Cross Country Championships in August in Australia, the Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships in October in Guam, and maybe the Honolulu Marathon in Hawaii in December. I will also join the all schools cross country races in Saipan as it will be my last year since I'm a senior in August," Tan said.

Meanwhile, two more athletes who represented the CNMI to the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 made it to the NMSA June honor roll.

Sprinter Zarinae Sapong was named Female Athlete of the Month, while Nick Gross took the same title in the men's division.

Sapong won the gold medal in the 100m run with her personal best time of 12.25 seconds and then earned a silver in the 200m race with another PB (27.77 seconds). Gross, on the other hand, got the gold medals in the javelin throw (49.74 meters) and hammer throw (21.52m).

BALLERZ

From Page 28

for 10 minutes and the first team to score 22 points or have the lead at the end of the tiff wins. The Ballerz, which had a twice-to-beat advantage in the finals as it entered the title match with an unbeaten record, raced to a 10-3 advantage early and was never threatened to finish off the winded Hafa Adai.

The Duncan Laxa-led Hafa Adai fought out of the loser's bracket after dropping its second game to the Ballerz. Hafa Adai, which also had

Kina Rangamar, and Eric Deleon Guerrero as members, remained in contention following its victories over No Idea and Easy Money.

Up next for Hafa Adai was Krew and they slugged it out for the last finals berth. Krew downed Easy Money in its first game and also won over No Idea to set up a duel with the Ballerz for the first finals berth, which the former got. Then in the battle for the last finals ticket, Hafa Adai was in control before Krew mounted a late comeback.

Krew's Dillan Cruz drilled three straight triples to tie the

match, 17-all, with 19 seconds remaining on the clock. However, Krew committed a defensive lapse, allowing Laxa to get through the paint and receive a pass from Deleon Guerrero for the go-ahead basket, 18-17, down to the last seven seconds of the close game. Angelo Factor then went for a 3-point attempt at the buzzer, but missed, handing Hafa Adai the win and a finals meeting with the Ballerz.

A well-rested Ballerz faced the exhausted Hafa Adai players, who had only 10 minutes to rest before suiting up in Game 1 of the finals. Fatigue

then took its toll on Hafa Adai, particularly its main gunner—Laxa—who muffed several shots, leaving the Ballerz a good opportunity to finish off its dead-tired foes early.

With the Ballerz topping last weekend's tournament, Blake, Camacho, and Santos now have a chance to play against teams from Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Guam, Fiji, Myanmar, Laos, Brunei, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam in the Sept. 7 to 10 competition at the Discovery Shopping Mall in Bali.

GOAL-FEST

From Page 28

The pair, both 22, have only 20 international appearances between them but are playing with good composure.

In Belgium, there were doubts about Roberto Martinez's ability to transfer the country's individual talent into a collective force. Fans welcomed his arrival in August 2016 with lukewarm enthusiasm because he'd only recently been fired by Everton in the Premier League.

His tenure began with a 2-0 home loss to Spain, but since then Belgium is unbeaten in 23 games and has scored 78 goals—being held scoreless in only one of those games. With former France striker Thierry Henry as an assistant coach, Belgium leads the scoring in Russia with 14 goals in its five World Cup matches.

"He's given the team the desire to attack," French Football Federation president Noel Le Graet said of Henry's influence on the Belgian team. "The forwards go to see him. He's held in high esteem."

Martinez's tactics have stood out, too.

With Belgium trailing Japan 2-0 in the round of 16, Marti-

nez replaced two wide players with two midfielders and they both scored.

Lloris vs Courtois

Belgium goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois and France No. 1 Hugo Lloris could be busy.

Lloris has been criticized during the past year after errors for France and Tottenham.

In France's World Cup opener against Australia, he let a long shot go past him and watched in relief as it hit the crossbar. But Lloris appeared to be at his commanding best in the quarterfinal win over Uruguay, rushing off his line to push away a low cross and later making a superb low save.

Belgium has height and heading ability in defenders Vincent Kompany and Jan Vertonghen and Marouane Fellaini.

Courtois entered the tournament as one of the top goalkeepers and has enhanced reputation with an outstanding quarterfinal performance against Brazil.

French striker Olivier Giroud thinks Lloris has the edge over Courtois, his club teammate at Chelsea.

"They're both very good on their line, but Hugo is more explosive," Giroud said. "The best is Hugo. Sorry, Thibaut."

Meunier out

Belgium must cope without defender Thomas Meunier, whose runs down the flank are a key part of Belgium's attack.

Meunier is suspended after tripping Brazil star Neymar and earning a second yellow card of the tournament. In Meunier's absence, Martinez may scrap his 3-5-2 formation with wingbacks, and instead switch to a back four in a more compact defense.

Hazard outlet

Star forward Eden Hazard is known for his attacking prowess, but he also is an outlet for Belgium's defense. Hazard runs at pace and cuts inside. Because of his quick feet, change of direction and exquisite close control, he is difficult to tackle and this often draws a foul.

Mbappe threat

While Giroud has yet to score at this World Cup, his ability to hold the ball up suits France's system and allows Mbappe to make runs down the right flank. It also gives Antoine Griezmann space to roam.

"I try to create gaps for my teammates," Giroud said. "It's my unselfish side."

He needs one goal to move

ahead of France great Zinedine Zidane. They are tied on fourth overall with 31.

Griezmann has scored two penalty kicks and set up Raphael Varane's headed goal against Uruguay. But he has not shown the form he did when he led France in scoring en route to the Euro 2016 final, when Les Bleus lost to Portugal.

Belgium struggled against Japan when defending quick and mobile players.

With the whistle

Andres Cunha of Uruguay was assigned to referee the match after working France's opening 2-1 win over Australia and Spain's 1-0 victory over Iran in the group stage. He awarded France a penalty kick after a video review of a tackle from behind by Joshua Risdon on Antoine Griezmann, who converted for a 1-0 lead. Cunha disallowed a goal by Iran's Saeid Ezatollahi after an assistant referee and the video assistant signaled the player was offside.

Croatia working extra

They've gone 120 minutes twice in a week. They have endured the emotional tugs of two penalty shootouts, somehow coming out on top on both

occasions, the first team since 1990 to do so at a World Cup. They're dealing with injuries to their starting right back, their goalkeeper and a handful of other players who could probably use a week in the ice bath.

There's no way Croatia is going to have any juice left in the tank for England in the World Cup semifinals, right?

"Of course there's power left for the English," Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said. "We don't want to stop. We want to play our best game then."

What kind of recovery Croatia can muster over the next three days may ultimately determine if it has a chance of taking out England and reaching the World Cup final for the first time when the sides meet in the semifinals on Wednesday night in Moscow.

Yes, Croatia may have one of the best individual players in the tournament with what Luka Modric has done in matching the deepest run ever by the country. But Croatia is also exhausted. Physically. Mentally.

There's no way they couldn't be after ousting Denmark on penalties in the round of 16, then being forced to extra time again by host Russia on Saturday night. Just before midnight local time, Ivan Rakitic's win-

ning penalty ignited yet another celebration that was a mix of excitement and relief.

The team and the country are riding a wave of adrenaline in matching the 1998 Croatian team and reaching the semis. At some point, that wave could crash.

"At certain times we lacked power but we played two times 120 minutes of football in six days," Modric said. "Of course this will leave a mark on you. You have to pay the toll for such exertions. But thank God we've shown our character."

The emotions were such that Dalic broke down in tears on the sideline after Rakitic's winning penalty.

"It came bursting out of me. I felt really relieved," Dalic said. "We made ourselves happy but we also made everybody back home in Croatia happy. Those emotions just burst out of me. I don't cry often, but I have a good reason."

The team was traveling from Sochi to Moscow on Sunday to set up camp for two days of training ahead of the semifinal. The most immediate worry appears to be starting right back Sime Vrsaljko, who had to be replaced during extra time, walking slowly off the field with an apparent leg injury.

2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament

PHOTOS By LITTLE LEAGUE PHILIPPINES



CNMI Senior All-Star team manager Doru Camacho, left, gives instructions to Pedro Maratita before the latter goes at bat during their game against Indonesia in the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament last week at the Global Villages, Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga, Philippines.



A CNMI Junior All-Star Team first baseman catches the ball, while a Chinese-Taipei runner slides.



A CNMI Senior All-Star Team player leans back to avoid a hit by pitch.



The CNMI Senior All-Star Team's Vicente Camacho prepares to run to first base.



CNMI Junior All-Star Team players wait for the resumption of their game against Chinese-Taipei.



A CNMI Junior All-Star Team pitcher throws to the mound during their game against Chinese-Taipei.



A CNMI Senior All-Star Team player dives home during their game against Indonesia.



Two CNMI Senior All-Star Team players talk during a break in their game against Indonesia.



Ohtani's pinch-hit
homer lifts Angels
over Dodgers

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Federer, Serena
aim to survive
carnage at
Wimbledon

PAGE 25



28 TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Goal-fest possible in France-Belgium semis



ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP)—Considering the attacking strength of France and Belgium, there's potential for a goal-fest when the European neighbors meet in the World Cup semifinals.

There was less at stake the last time the teams last went head-to-head at the World Cup, a 4-2 victory for France in the third-place match in 1986. That was the last competitive match between the two countries but there have been eight international friendlies since.

Belgium won two of those, including the last one: an exhibition three years ago at Stade de France when the Belgians took a three-goal lead five minutes into the second half and held on to win, 4-3.

With the second-youngest roster at the World Cup, France has shown no fear and advanced to its first World Cup semifinal since 2006 led by 19-year-old forward Kylian Mbappe and a pair



of inexperienced attacking fullbacks in Benjamin Pavard and Lucas Hernandez.

"We're not scared of anyone," Pavard said. "We've been confident from the start and we're not asking any questions of ourselves."

Coach Didier Deschamps, who was captain when France won the 1998 World Cup and the 2000 European Championship, has instilled a steely mentality.

"He motivates the troops with strong words," Pavard said. "We're ready to go to war with him."

Confident coaching

Deschamps made bold decisions to start Pavard on the right and Lucas Hernandez on the left.

See GOAL-FEST on Page 26

AP

Belgium's Eden Hazard, left, and Brazil's Paulinho challenge for the ball during the quarterfinal match at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Kazan Arena, in Kazan, Russia, Friday, July 6.

Ballerz tops 3x3 qualifier to Bali



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ballerz's Dean Blake, Cassandra Camacho, and Coby Santos will represent the CNMI to the 2018 Mixed U-18 IBF Youth Leaders Basketball Cup that will take place in Indonesia in September.



The Ballers earned a ticket to the FIBA's International Basketball Foundation-organized 3x3 tournament after ruling a qualifier held last

Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Blake and company were undefeated in the competition, securing the trip to Indonesia following a 22-10 victory in the finals against Hafa Adai.

Blake drilled the game-winning triple in Game 1 with still 23 seconds left in the finale. The title match, just like the regular game, was played

See BALLERZ on Page 26

Tan leads NMSA June honor roll

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Saipan International School's Tania Tan was handed the Tan Siu Lin Foundation/NMSA Female Student Athlete of the Month award for June after winning medals for the CNMI during the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 held at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Tan took the gold medals in the 3,000m and 5,000m

See TAN on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tania Tan poses with her first place medal in the L'Occitane Race For Vision 5K Run held early this month in Malaysia.



The Ballerz's Cassandra Camacho pulls up for a shot against Hafa Adai's Kina Rangamar during their finals game in the 2018 Mixed U-18 IBF Youth Leaders Basketball Cup qualifier held last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO